TIMES

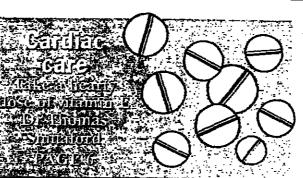
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THE

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Downing St anger as fear over mad cow disease grows and three EU partners end imports

French lead Euro-ban on British beef

By Ben Macintyre in Paris, Charles Bremner in Brussels Roger Boyes in Bonn and Philip Webster in London

BRITAIN was in confrontation with its European partners last night after France. Belgium and The Netherlands halted imports of British beef and Germany called for a continent-wide ban.

At the same time, councils across Britain removed beef from the menus of thousands of schools and old people's homes in the light of new evidence linking "mad cow" disease and a human brain disorder. And the meat industry warned ministers that they could face a multimillion pound compensation bill.

The French action removed at a stroke Britain's most valuable market for beef amounting to 80,000 tonnes a year worth £220 million — and dealt a devastating blow to the Government, butchers and farmers as they tried to reasvure domestic consumers.

Downing Street declared the continental bans illegal, and Brussels deplored them, British exports seems un-



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avoidable when the the European Commission's veterinary committee meets on Monday. One official said: "The new British statement makes it hard to carry on as before."

Germany, which has been campaigning for years to get the possible danger posed to humans by mad cow disease taken seriously, is certain to press for tough restrictions --and it could well sway the whole Union against Britain.

For two years, it has sought a comprehensive statement on British meat after coming under pressure from consumers, local politicians and farmers who have watched with alarm as German consumption of all meat has slumped in spite of posters at supermarkets, butcher shops and restaurants highlighting the source of all their meat. Yesterday its health and

agriculture ministries issued a statement saying: "On the basis of the new information. general export ban from Britain for meat, meat products, offal, animal meal and raw materials for pharmaceuticals and cosmetics in the European Union." The ministries also said that they would be urging action against other countries where "mad cow" disease has been identified.

In Brussels, however, the Commission insisted that it would do nothing until after the veterinary committee had reviewed the latest evidence. British officials reported to the farm directorate yesterday and the EU's panel of independent scientific experts are to consider the issue at a regular meeting today. "We must not

only a problem in the UK and we should not overstate the extent of it," a spokesman for

the farm commissioner said. Britain's position was put by Kevin Taylor, the Government's assistant chief scientific veterinary officer, and other officials. Mr Taylor said that his duty was not to reassure but to inform the the EU of the Government's actions, which he felt were sufficient.

The final decision on any EU action will come from the Commission rather than the council of member states, and British officials were lobbying to avoid any drastic steps such as an outright ban that would carry far-reaching political implications. Beyond the scientific arguments, it would signal a lack of confidence in the Government and deepen the mutual suspicions that dog British relations with its conti-

nental partners. Yesterday, Euro-sceptics France and Sir Teddy Taylor called for a retaliatory ban on French beef and wine, saying: We get far better wine from Australia and New Zealand." Douglas Hogg denounced

the French move as unreasonable, unnecessary and "a wholly disproportionate response" as Britain made urgent representations to Brussels to have the embargo lifted. Mr Hogg said it raised "very strong questions of illegality Continued on page 5, col 1

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> John Major's announce-

ment follows growing concern

over firearms controls since



Meat course scotched by Parisians

Tobermory malt was quaffed

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

THE kilted bagpiper did his best, but a promotional hunch in Paris yesterday to encourage French consumption of Scottish products including "iuicy Scotch beef" was a tense and nervous affair, coinciding with the total French ban on British beef.

"It's a disaster," declared Kate Frears, spokesman for Food From Britain", which organised the event, part of nationwide promotion entitled "Scotland the Brand" and incorporating, among other groups, the Scotch Beef Club

of France. "The timing could hardly be worse," she added. All over France members of the Scotch Beef Club, an association of more than 50 top restaurants that feature Scottish beef, will no doubt

begin peeling the tartan stickers from their doors as la maladie de la vache folle grips the country.

Despite assurances that the risk was "minuscule", some of the guests at yesterday's lunch, held at Bertie's, the celebrated British restaurant

in the swanky 16th arrondisse-

ment, were not so sure. The

Tartare of Smoked Salmon

wolfed down.

without a second thought, the Creel of Crinan Scallops vanished in moments, but the crunch came with the Angus "Is this a good idea?" asked

Rénaud Siegmann of Orl-owski publishers, eyeing his helping of meat as if it might at any moment leap off the plate and attack him in a frenzy of bovine insanity.

His neighbour on the "Tiree table" was taking no chances. demanding that her succulent fillet be taken back to the kitchen and returned bien. hien cuit, a crime against French gastronomy in any other circumstances. When the frazzled remnant reappeared she toyed with it. wearing a distracted air.

At the "Mull table" Damian Cronin. the former Scottish international was clearly aware that national pride was at steak and whacked into his Aberdeen Angus with theatrical relish.
With true Culloden spirit.

however, the organisers of the event were not going to let the beef ban get them down. Scottish food is not just about beef, you know," Alice Wood of "Scotland the Brand" observed brightly. "In New York they loved the lemon curd."



"Old Macdonald wished he didn't have a farm E-I-E-I-O"

Guns amnesty to reassure public

AND GILLAN BOWDITCH

A NATIONWIDE firearms amnesty is to be held within three months, after the massacre of schoolchildren and a teacher in Dunblane, the Prime Minister announced

The Government surprised police by disclosing the amnesty as the terms of reference were announced for the official inquiry into the killings. Michael Howard also dis-

closed that opposition politicans will be invited to discuss their concerns, adding that the results of a Home Office review of firearms legislation would be given to Lord Cullen's inquiry.

the attack last week. An amnesty in 1988 after Michael Ryan's massacre in Hungerford led to 48,000 weapons being handed in. The Government's swift de-

cision will be seen as a reassurance that it is doing something to meet public concern especially as the inquiry will not report until September. Both the Firearms Consultative Council, the Government watchdog, and chief constables, have been press-

ing for an amnesty. Mr Major told the Commons at Question Time: "It has been agreed that an amnesty will take place. The details are being worked out and we will advise the House as soon as possible." He said that Mr Howard, the Home Secretary, and Michael Forsyth, the Scottish Secretary. had been in discussion with

the police before the tragedy.

Jim Sharples, president of the Association of Chief Police Officers, said: "Firearms amnesties do add value to the question of public safety and allow members of the public the opportunity to surrender weapons to the police."

Police sources suggested that the amnesty would take about three months to organise. They want all relinquished weapons to be given forensic tests for possible crime links. The question of

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compensation will also have to be addressed. Lord Cullen's judicial inquiry will have a wide-ranging remit with witnesses required to give evidence under oath.

Those failing to comply could be charged with contempt.

Mr Forsyth said the inquiry into the deaths of 16 children. Gwenne Mayor, and the gunman, Thomas Hamilton, at Dunblane Primary School would be similar to that held after the 1966 Aberfan disaster

in which 116 children died. The inquiry, which will start in June, will be held under the auspices of the Tribunals of inquiry (Evidence) Act 1921. Lord Cullen carried out the inquiry into the Piper Alpha oil platform disaster.

Ulster elections set for May 30

Irish politicians backed away from a threatened boycott of elections in Northern Ireland. The poll will take place on May 30, leading to all-party talks on June 10.

John Major announced a unique and complicated system of elections to a 110member peace forum. Gerry Adams said that the plans were anathema nationalists......Pages 2, 19

Water war

A bid war for South West Water was triggered by Severn Trent moving to buy the company which has had a proposal from Wessex Water on its way to the monopolies commissionPage 23 | alcoholic drinks a day cut the

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Drinkers take heart from health survey

BY JEREMY LAURANCE AND JOE JOSEPH

good for you and can guard against heart disease, according to American experts. The scientists at Harvard

School of Public Health in Boston, Massachusetts, have destroyed the myth that only red wine is beneficial. British Medical Journal,

In an article in tomorrow's based on a review of 25 studies on the effect of drinking on heart disease, they conclude that moderate amounts of any alcohol reduce the risk. Current medical advice is that people who take two or three

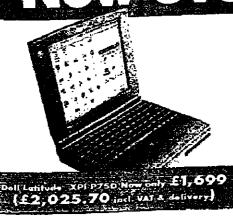
WHISKY, beer and gin are danger of a heart attack by one sixth. But some studies show that up to seven units a day are protective - equivalent to three and a half pints of beer

or a bottle of wine. Experiments have shown that any alcohol reduces blood's tendency to clot and increases the level of HDL cholesterol, which fights heart

☐ Starting young: Teenagers drink more alcohol than five years ago and more than half of secondary school pupils have tried it, according to the Office of Population Censuses

	
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Rival packs scoff over dog's breakfast

competing hostilities? North-ern Ireland's MPs decided to Paddy Ashdown got it right. The Prime Minister's rueful smile, as he protested that the Liberal Democrat Leader had not got it right, said it all. This plan for Northern Ireland elections was -- in Mr Ashdown's words - "a dog's breakfast". But it was "probably the only dog's breakfast on offer. It may well be the best dog's breakfast that can be arrived at." From the Ulster kennels to left and right of the chair the yaps and growls confirmed our canine analysis.

None of these pooches liked the breakfast much; none of them liked each other at all; and every one mistrusted their London kennel masters. How to resolve these

growl at the breakfast but without quite kicking over the dog-bowl; all the while watching rival hounds from the corner of the eye lest any should try to corner the breakfast for themselves. John Major spoke with force and clarity, but the plans he had to recommend

were hard for MPs to grasp. Tony Blair responded posi-tively and with equal dispatch. Paddy Ashdown was brief and plain. The three party leaders were in the mood to be reasonable and make the best of a difficult

But that was the easy part. After all, none of these men



MATTHEW PARRIS **POLITICAL SKETCH**

was being asked to eat the breakfast, David Trimble, the Leader of the Ulster Unionists, was. And to him this was. frankly, more like cat-food than Pedigree Chum, concocted by "an unholy alliance" between the Paisleyite and the nationalist dog-packs, and Dublin. He couldn't fathom why his own party's breakfast request had been rejected. But still he gave the impression that he and his fellow-hounds might

eat the dish if they absolutely

inclined Social Democratic and Labour Party, Seamus Mallon (Newry & Armagh) bared his teeth and looked almost ready to bite the prime-ministerial hand offering to feed him, but not quite. He accused Major of devising this food to favour the Unionist hounds. Mallon circled the dog's breakfast, barking angrily, refused even to sniff at its contents - and sat down, still snarling. But he had not entirely turned his back on the mess.

For Ian Paisley's Demo-

floor ("whingeing and pan-icking," he said) he returned to scoff and sneer at what had been placed before him. blaming its contents on them. He too, however, deplored the meal without rejecting it. Each pack was blaming the ingredients of the breakfast

cratic Unionist Party, Peter Robinson (Belfast E) declared

the breakfast to be "the most

broadly unacceptable" dog-

food it was possible for

Major to devise. Pausing to

yap at the other "Official"

Unionist dogs, across the

on a conspiracy between the London kennelmaster and the other two dog packs. Speaking as kennelmaster, John Major showed the strain. At Seamus Mailon's

snapped. To each he repeated that whoever proved the stumbling block to this process would not be forgiven by the people of Northern Ireland themselves.

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the

Northern Ireland Secretary, impassive on the bench beside him. Major pleaded with earnest, exasperated patience. He looked like a man driven often to the edge, but never over it. The Ulster MPs sounded like men almost ready to give him that final push ... but in the event not

"Give them independence!" grunted a despairing Sir Patrick Cormack (C, Staffs S). He

Poll plan for Ulster receives grudging support

AND NICHOLAS WATT

JOHN MAJOR last night cleared a crucial hurdle in the search for peace in Northern Ireland when politicians backed away from a threatened boycott of elections in the Province. They will take place on May 30, with all-party talks scheduled for June 10.

The Prime Minister unveiled a highly complicated system to elect the 110 members of the peace forum. It was forced on him after the political parties failed to agree to

any established form of poll. There will be five seats for each of Northern Ireland's 18 parliamentary constituencies. The electors will vote for a party. Each party will publish a list of five candidates for each constituency and rank their candidates so that the first one is their favourite to succeed. A further 20 seats will be selected through complicated arithmetic after the vote. All the votes in the constituencies will be added together and the ten most successful parties across Northern Ireland will win two elected representatives each from party lists published in advance. The parties elected to the 110member forum will then select

smaller negotiating teams. Nationalist politicians com-plained that Mr Major's compromise proposals were Unionist-inspired, but there were no immediate threats to

pull out of the elections. The Prime Minister emphasised that Sinn Fein would not take part in the all-party talks unless the IRA ceasefire was restored and the issue of decommissioning weapons was addressed. The party will. however, be allowed to take part in the elections even if the ceasefire is not revived.

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, said the election plans were "anathema to nationalists".

Mr Major described the election package as a viable and reasonable way forward" that demanded compromise from everybody. He acknowledged there was a risk of politicians refusing to take part, but said that "no one who stands unreasonably in the way of a settlement will be readily forgiven".

Paddy Ashdown, Liberal Democrat leader, described the plans as "a dog's breakfast", but "it may well be the best dog's breakfast".

A senior source in Dublin said: "It gives something to everybody, but nothing to everybody."

Politics, page 10 pool. marks Granada Tele-Leading article, page 19 vision's fortieth anniversary.



Kent river saved from drought

The River Darent in Kent is being made drought-proof. The river has run dry during most summers since 1976, but yesterday Lord Crickhowell chairman of the National Rivers Authority, switched on the first of six artificial springs that will feed the chalk river at times of low flow. Several such schemes are planned. The amount of water taken by Thames Water from the catchment area is being reduced.

Oxfam cuts £5.6m

Oxfam says the National Lottery is partly to blame for cuts amounting to \$5.6 million that are likely to mean the loss of 50 jobs and the closure of overseas projects. People have also been less willing to donate to Oxfam's charity shops.

Life for hitman

A hitman who took up a contract on a millionaire car dealer was jailed for life at the Old Bailey. Kevin Lane. 26, of Potton, Bedfordshire, was convicted of murdering Robert Magill, 44, as he walked his dog near his home in Hertfordshire.

£2m mugging

Two muggers escaped with jewels worth almost £2 million after spraying CS gas into the face of a 29-year-old German jewellery salesman in Hatton Garden, central London, on Wednesday night, police said yesterday.

Forward jailed

A rugby forward was jailed for eight months for attacks on two players in different matches. Ian Thickpenny, 31, olavine for Barry. jaw of one player and the eye socket of another, Cardiff Crown Court was told.

In harmony

The Hallé Orchestra and the Royal Liverpool Philharm-onic are to perform together for the first time next month. The concert, at the Royal Philharmonic Hall in Liver-

e.

В. С.

Families claim damages as Sheriff contradicts RAF's finding of negligence

Inquiry clears RAF pilots in Chinook helicopter crash

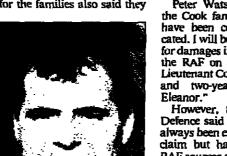
By Gillian Bowditch, Michael Evans and Nicholas Watt

Chinook helicopter that crashed into the Mull of Kintyre killing 25 anti-terrorist specialists cannot be blamed for the tragedy, a second inquiry has ruled.

Sheriff Sir Stephen Young. who carried out a four-week fatal accident inquiry in Paisley, has concluded that he can find no cause for the accident

THE two pilots of the RAF was caused by pilot error. The report, which is due to be published today, contradicts the official RAF board of inquiry which found the pilots grossly negligent.

Yesterday the families of Flight Lieutenant Jonathan Tapper, 28, and his co-pilot Flight Lieutenant Richard Cook, 30, called on the RAF to retract their finding. Lawyers for the families also said they



Flight Lieutenants Tapper (left)and Cook: their families will now make claims for compensation

The Link

would immediately lodge claims for compensation and

being negotiated by the families of the civilian victims, who included senior members of MI5 and the Royal Ulster Constabulary Special Branch. The widows of the two pilots feared they would receive no compensation.

Peter Watson, solicitor for the Cook family, said: "They have been completely vindicated. I will be lodging a claim for damages immediately with the RAF on behalf of Flight Lieutenant Cook's widow Sara and two-year-old daughter

However, the Ministry of Defence said the widows had always been entitled to make a claim but had not done so. RAF sources also continued to insist that, despite Sir Stephen's report, there remained no other possible conclusion than the one reached by Air Vice-Marshal John Day. Air Officer Commanding No I Group. His judgment that the pilots were to blame was



Widows of those killed in the accident at a press conference in Belfast yesterday

supported by Air Chief Mar-shal Sir Bill Wratten, Air surprise. They had been flying Officer Commanding-in-Chief Strike Command.

The sources said that the board of inquiry led by a wing commander and two squadron leaders found nothing mechanically wrong with the Chinook. One source said: "The fact that the Chinook had to climb suddenly to try to fly over the mountain indicated

surprise. They had been flying below the safe altitude for those sort conditions."

The RAF's position was rejected by John Cook, father of Richard Cook and a former RAF pilot. He said: "The inquiry by Sir Stephen Young has cleared my son's name, which is what we have been fighting for."

The two pilots were flying a new Mark II Chinook when it crasned into a ti mountain on the Mull 20 minutes after take-off. The helicopter was bound for a security conference at Fort George near Inverness.

Sir Stephen said it had not been established to his satisfaction or on the balance of probability that the cause was "the decision of the crew to overfly the Mull of Kintyre at cruising speed and their selection for that purpose of the incorrect rate of climb. Mr Cook said other Chinook pilots had told him they were worried about its safety.

The inquiry was told that

Flight Lieutenant Tapper had voiced a number of concerns about the helicopter which had been brought into service in Northern Ireland only two days before the crash. ☐ Verdicts of accidental death were returned at an inquest

into the death of two Britons and three Algerian aircrew killed when a plane exporting veal calves to the Continent crashed, narrowly missing a housing estate. The two-day hearing at Coventry was told that stock handlers Adrian Sharp, 31, of Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, West Yorkshire, and Andrew Yates, 23, of Rugby, Warwickshire, were killed instantly when the Air Algeria Boeing 737 crashed near Coventry airport in December 1994.

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Dunblane children go back to school

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

THE children of Dunblane Primary School will return to their classes today for the first time since 16 pupils and their teacher were shot dead ten

days ago. Social workers and counsellors will be on hand to help when the school opens between 9am and noon and parents will be invited to stay for a short time.

Gerry McDermott, of the school board, said teachers would try to make the day as normal as possible but he acknowledged that this would be difficult. He said it was still to be decided if the headmaster Ron Taylor, one of the first on the scene after the massacre, would address the whole school of 700 pupils. One problem is that the gym where the shootings took place was also used as the assembly hall.

Parents have been sent letters by the local authority outlining arrangements and telling them "it will be a special and different day". A spokeswoman for Central Regional Council's education department said: "I don't think it will be like a normal day. It is more to get them reacquainted with the school and the first stage of getting back to normality."

The last funerals took place yesterday. Gwenne Mayor, the teacher who died, was buried after a service at the i3th-century cathedral. Later the funeral of Brett Mc-Kinnon, six, was held at the cathedral. The service for Ross Irvine, five, took place in private in Ayr.

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Personal stereo plea rejected

Inventor who lost leaves taxpayer with £500,000 bill

AND FRANCES GIBB

A WEALTHY German inventor's attempt to prove that he invented the personal stereo will cost the British taxpayer £500,000 after his claim, funded by legal aid, was thrown out by the Court of Appeal yesterday.

Andreas Pavel, who has spent his El million inheritance in seven years of court battles with Sony in the hope of becoming a multimillionaire, was criticised by the judges for the £2.7 million costs he had run up in court hearings. The proceedings had resulted in "inefficiency. delay and excessive costs", the judges said, as they ordered Herr Pavel to pay the Court of Appeal bill, which alone came

However, payment will fall to the Legal Aid Board which funded Herr Pavel's appeal, despite his shareholdings estimated by Sony's lawyers at "hundreds of thousands of pounds" and strong objections lodged by Sony.

Herr Pavel, 51, who lives in Milan, first thought of his "stereophonic system for personal wear" while on a walking holiday in the 1970s and made a prototype for which he took out patents in Germany, Britain and other countries.

Herr Pavel had claimed that his personal stereo, which incorporated a pair of headphones, a belt, cassette player, amplifier and storage pouch. was inventive and not obvious. However, the judges ruled that his patent was not an inventive concept and refused him leave to appeal in the House of Lords.



Pavel, who says he will continue his battle

evidence had not established the success of the Walkman was due to the inventive concept as claimed. "The Walkman would have been just as successful without any belt, clip or loop for belt attachment. Its success appears to have been due to its sophisticated system for producing high-quality sound

Last night Herr Pavel said: "I am disappointed and frustrated with the judgment. I think the judges were superficial and I don't think they fully understood the concept."

Herr Pavel lodged his original unsuccessful action in the Patents County Court: it cost Sony £1.4 million. Toshiba E300,000 and Herr Pavel E500,000. If he had won his case, he could have expected £100 million in royalties from worldwide sales. Šony is estimated to have earned £3 billion from its Walkman.

In spite of debts now exceeding his assets, Herr Pavel intends to continue his global

legal battle. Asked about the fact he was being funded by the British taxpayer he said: "It was the British legal system that ruined me and I am only using the rules. I would have paid for the appeal but I lost all my money in the first

The case is the latest in which the Legal Aid Board has come under fire. Two weeks ago it was strongly criticised over granting legal aid to help a robber to investigate a claim against the police for shooting him during his arrest.

It will also reopen the debate about granting legal aid to foreign nationals. The Lord Chancellor recently consulted on whether foreign nationals should be denied legal aid. Sir Thomas Legg, permanent secretary of the Lord Chancellor's Department, told MPs this week that the overwhelming view from those consulted was that foreign nationals were entitled to legal aid on the same footing as British nationals, who are equally entitled to legal aid that exists in other countries.

Donald Jerrard, a solicitor for Sony, said yesterday: "We will now be pursuing the Legal Aid Board for our costs, although the likelihood is that we shan't be able to get back much more than one third of the total.

He added: "We do not believe he should have been granted legal aid. Herr Pavel had to reveal the extent of his assets after the first hearing, and Sony believes those assets were far in excess of the limit for legal aid. Herr Pavel had argued that his assets were not disposable because the shares were in family companies and



إ حمكة المن الاصل

Maggie Atkinson, who was left handcuffed to the banisters overnight after burglars wearing balaclavas stole jewellery and cash

Thieves handcuff Ron Atkinson's wife

THE wife of Ron Atkinson. the Premier League football manager, was handcuffed to the banisters at their home by masked robbers and left for more than 12 hours.

Maggie Atkinson, 47. discovered the three intruders inside the mock-Tudor house in Barnt Green, Hereford and Worcester, where the couple have lived for six months. She was pushed to the floor, her jewellery was taken and then she was marched to the bedroom and forced to hand over cash and other items.

She was handcuffed to the banisters on the landing of the £250,000 house where she was eventually found at 10.30 yesterday morning by Mr Atkinson's driver

Mr Atkinson, the flamboyant manager of Coventry City and former manager of West

Bromwich Albion, Manchester United, Sheffield Wednesday and Aston Villa, was not at home when the men broke into the house at about 9.30pm on Wednesday.

The raiders struck while he was appearing on television in London to commentate on a match between Juventus and Real Madrid in the European Champions' League. He is understood to have stayed in London rather than make the journey back to the Midlands late at night.

He tried to telephone his wife at home but kept getting the answering machine and reported the problem to BT as a potential fault. The Atkinsons, who mar-

ried six years ago, are believed to be under contract to tell the story of Wednesday night's incident to a national newspaper. But in a brief

interview with the Coventry Evening Telegraph Mr Atkinson, 56, said yesterday: The police formed the impression that the burglars had no idea it was my place and that it was just a

A spokesman for West Mercia police said last night: "Mrs Atkinson heard noises in the hall and went to investigate. She was confronted by three men wearing balaclavas. They forced her to lead

them into the bedroom. They were extremely aggressive and stole the jewellery she was wearing. Mrs Atkinson was not physically hurt apart from abrasions caused by the handcuffs, but she was obviously extremely distressed.

"We would ask anyone who saw anything suspicious in the area of Mearse Lane to



Atkinson: in London at the time of the attack

contact us." No value has been given for the stolen items. Mr Atkinson said last night: "It has been particularly distressing, but fortunately Maggie is very resilient and took it, not

necessarily well, but showed a lot of courage. She is very tired and is going to bed for a while." He refused to pose for

Peter Lee, a family friend who was at the house, said: "Ron was away for the night and did not know what had happened to Maggie. The family just want to be left alone as Mrs Atkinson is still in shock and wishes to rest."

He said the couple had only moved to the house, at the foot of the Lickey Hills, six months ago. They lived close by in another house but moved here because it was so secluded," he said.

A neighbour, who did not want to be named, said: "I think she will bear up under the strain but it must have been very frightening. If only she could have got to a phone she would have been able to get help instead of lying there all night."



The Lloyd Webbers, disliked "pin cushion" look

Earl's phone mast riles composer

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE ERECTION of a 50ft mobile telephone relay mast on the Earl of Carnarvon's estate has led to a war of words with his neighbours, Sir Andrew and Lady Lloyd Webber.

The composer and his wife have objected to the local council, which is considering whether to grant planning permission to the metal tower. which stands in a designated area of outstanding natural beauty on the Highelere Estate in Berkshire. Lord Carnarvon, the Queen's racing manager, allowed Vodafone to erect it last November on his land under Beacon Hill near Newbury on a temporary basis, for which he receives a nominal rent.

The 7th Earl said yesterday that he had allowed it subject to full permission by the Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. A recommendation by its planning officers to go ahead will be considered next week. The relay mast, complete with antennae. is needed to boost the signal on the Vodafone network. Sir Andrew and his wife, who live two miles from Lord Carnarvon's Highclere Castle, cannot see it from their home.
But Lady Lloyd Webber

said: "We are not whingeing on about what's going on in our backyard. I am just astonished that the council and the landowner should allow permission for this mast to go up in an area of outstanding natural beauty. With all these masts sprouting up, the countryside is going to be turned into a pin cushion." Lord Carnarvon said: "You

have to judge the mast on what it looks like in its present position against the national need for mobile telephones. If there is a big enough objection locally then we shall not agree to it becoming permanent."

The local authority is believed to have received eight

Lottery winners say they never had it so good

By Alexandra Frean, media correspondent

TWO men who scooped the National Lottery jackpot countered the myth yesterday that winning a fortune leads to misery, broken relationships, press persecution, begging letters and excess.

Bob Westland, a former sub-postmaster from Alloa, near Stirling, Who Won E3.8 million last July, told the Heritage Select Committee's inquiry into the lottery that it had made him very happy and secure. Mr Westland, 58, who has fulfilled his wife Ann's dream of buying a small country house hotel that they are to run as a family business, denied sug-gestions from MPs that becoming a millionaire over-night could lead to misery.

"Anyone who says it will make you miserable doesn't know what they are talking about," he said. In addition to setting up the hotel busi-ness with two of his sons and his wife, a former deputy headmistress. Mr Westland has given away £500,000 and has set up another son with

his own company. Ken Southwell, a former communications engineer who won £839,000 on the first lottery draw, in November 1994, said that he had been perfectly happy with his life before his win, but conceded that the win had given him financial security for life. He had also paid off his sister's mortgage and set up a finan-cial fund for her.

Although he bad initially been disappointed that his employer, Tele-Aerial Satellite, a subsidiary of BSkyB, had questioned his continuing loyalty and asked him to leave, Mr Southwell, 37, said that with hindsight the firm had done him a favour. He now runs buys and lets houses and plans to expand. Both men said that they did not think that the jackpot prizes were too large. Asked if the win had led to intrusive media coverage. Mr West-land said that the opposite was true. Media interest had been a "seven-day wonder", he said, and had been very well handled by Camelot, the

lottery operator. Mr Southwell said he did not really have the chance to avoid publicity as a winner in the first draw but it had not bothered him. Neither went

on a spending spree.

The only criticism the two men had was that they would have preferred two sessions with Camelot's financial advisers instead of one. Asked by MPs how they chose their numbers, Mr Southwell said his were based on birthdays while Mr Westland revealed

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Parishioners' charity donations went to 'nonexistent' orphanage Ian Day, asked his local MP.

BY RUTH GLEDHILL RELIGION CORRESPONDENT

PARISHIONERS at a church in North Wales have given thousands of pounds to an orphanage in India that does not appear to exist.

For more than ten years, up to 50 churchgoers at Mold, Clwyd, have held coffee mornings and collected donations in envelopes to help an orphanage in Rajalımundry.

In return for £16,000 given since 1983, they received regular reports on the progress of the children said to be in the orphanage, as well as audited accounts of how their money

was being spent. But although photographs continued to arrive, the children's case histories dried up and the Vicar of Mold, the Rev

David Hanson, to have the orphanage checked out. His parishioners were horrified to learn from the Foreign Office that "the orphanage appears to exist on paper only".

According to Jeremy Han-ley, a Foreign Office Minister. the organisation was regis-tered by a local Indian driver who has since been receiving donations from sources in

various countries. After the investigations by the British Council division in Hyderabad, Mr Hanley advised donors not to send any more cash to the

Last night Mr Day, who said he has made the affair public to warn other donors. said that he still hoped further investigations might elicit given for the orphanage is in a particularly remote part of the country and has not been visited by a British Council

Mr Day said: "We have got lots of pictures of children. We have got children's histories from the early years." He said the parishioners

had originally been put in touch with the orphanage by the Girls' Friendly Society of London. They had it checked twice by a representative of the Anglican Church of Southern India, who told them the orphanage was genuine and needed 100 rupees a month for

Mr Day said he now had mixed feelings about the generosity of his flock. There is a sense of pride at being part of

do something so positive to help." he said. "But there is also total disappointment that they appear to have been duped. I am quite saddened by

He said he was uplifted by the desire of his parishioners still to help the needy. "One lady said that if she couldn't give money there, she will give it elsewhere," the vicar

Mr Hanson, Labour MP for Delyn, will be tabling questions in Parliament on the charity next week. He said: "My instinct is to support the local church. They raised it with me because they felt unsure of the feedback they were getting. I'm going to ask for further investigations from

Farmers face abyss of all-out slaughter

By Michael Hornsby, agriculture correspondent

staring into the abyss as they contemplate the possibility of the slaughter of the entire national cattle herd to wipe

out "mad cow" disease. Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, shocked the farming community by confirming that wholesale slaughter was "one of the options that is open" should there be a surge in cases of Creutzfeldt-Jakob aisease (CJD), the human counterpart of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE).

Sir David Naish, president of the National Farmers' Union, said he could not imagine such a policy ever being necessary but admitted: "I supposed anything could be done if that is the right way to protect public health." Nearly 160,000 cattle show-

ing symptoms of BSE have

Cattle prices slumped by an average of 12 per cent in Britain's livestock markets yesterday, according to the Meat and Livestock Commission. Farmers held back rather than sell their animals with the price low and the number of cattle going through markets was down by about 30 per cent. Prices for steers, heifers and young bulls averaged 107.3p per kilogram liveweight. down 14p on the previous average price per head from £693 to £612.

already been slaughtered and destroyed. In the last comparable animal health crisis. some 400,000 livestock were culled in an epidemic of footand-mouth in 1967. But what is now being contemplated would be unprecedented.

Britain has 12 million head of beef and dairy cattle on some 136,000 farms, according to the Meat and Livestock Commission (MLC). More than half of all farmers carn at least some of their income

The breeding stock consists of 3.2 million dairy cows and heifers and 2.1 million beef cows and heifers. In addition, there are 6.7 million calves and younger animals being reared for their meat on both dairy and beef farms.

Mick Sloyan, the MLC's chief economist, said: "Last year we reckon that farmers earned 52 billion from the slaughter of 3.3 million cattle.

DAIRY and beef farmers are The total farmgate value of milk and milk products was around £3.3 billion."

The most common dairy breed is the Holstein Friesian. Among the the most popular beef breeds are Charollais and Limousin, both of French origin, and Hereford and Aberdeen Angus. Small numbers of rare breeds are also reared for beef and milk.

Lawrence Alderson, director of the Rare Breeds Survival Trust, said: "It is hard to see how there could be any justification for slaughtering these animals. They are mostly raised on grass and would be most unlikely to have been fed the kind of rations which caused BSE."

If compensation was paid at about £700 a head, the current rate for BSE cattle, the slaughter of the breeding stock of 5.3 million cows alone would cost the Government £3.7 billion. Other animals would not qualify for such high pay-ments but meat industry sources suggested the total bill could amount to £7 billion.

*Compensation for the culled animals would not be the end of it," Mr Sloyan said. "You would then have to restock the national herd with imported cattle. Finding 12 million suitable replacements would be a major task in itself." Even if the slaughter was limited to herds that have had BSE, the result would still be devastating. Ninety-eight per cent of all cases of BSE have occurred in dairy herds.

Alison Best, the NFU's re-gional adviser in the South West, a prime dairy area, said: "We must not go overboard and devastate an entire industry." But Richard Haddock, no rears 1,000 beef cattle on his farm at Kingswear, near Dartmouth, said drastic measures were needed to restore public confidence. He suggested that all older dairy cattle should be destroyed and banned from sale as beef. ☐ The Archers was re-recorded at the eleventh hour yesterday to bring the latest BSE scare to Ambridge. Scriptwriters took the rare step of rewriting last night's episode

Magnus Linklater, page 18 Leading article, page 19 Letters, page 19

to allow the characters in the

long-running BBC Radio 4

serial to air their views on the

subject. Actors were re-called

to the Birmingham studio to

record a new storyline.



Farmers at the cattle market in Banbury yesterday. More than half of all British farmers earn at least some of their income from cattle

Why agriculture is a special case

WHITEHALL CORRESPONDENT

FEW industries other than farming have been so immune to market forces. Even a radical Conservative Government committed to the iron law of the market has done little to reduce the £28 billion a year subsidy to British farmers. Much of that comes from the European Union but the coal and steel industries never enjoyed such treatment.

Tony Fowler of the Meat and Livestock Commission said: "The case is partly strategic and goes back to the Second World War and the shortage of food supplies that continued for several years afterwards." He also cited social and economic reasons.

"Rural communities would be depopulated. Without some sort of help, farmers' incomes would suffer hadly and so would the rural econoSUBSIDIES

my." The Ministry of Agriculture endorsed the arguments. A spokesman said: "If you didn't have subsidies there would be no farming in hill areas, in the uplands such as the Pennines and in much of Scotland and Wales," The department also emphasised environmental reasons.

Nevertheless, the Government is committed to making agriculture more market-oriented but the biggest obstacle remains the common agricultural policy.

The department said: "If you moved to market forces overnight, agriculture would be wiped out not just in the uplands but in most of southern Europe. Agriculture has to be subsidised to keep it going." The argument would have sounded familiar to Arthur Scargill.

Industry says Government must foot bill if jobs go

By Andrew Pierce

LEADERS of Britain's £12 billion meat industry have said that the Government could face a massive compensation bill if the BSE scare has a serious impact on sales. At a private meeting with

Angela Browning, the junior Agriculture Minister, on Wednesday representatives made clear they would hold the Government responsible if there were any job losses and bankruptcies.

Meat producers fear a salmonella-in-eggs type of crisis that could cost thousands of jobs in the industry, already affected by a growing trend towards vegetarianism. Beef sales are about £4 billion, almost a third of the industry's annual turnover.

The Ministry of Agriculture paid £8.3 million compensation for enforced slaughtering

Farmers

may sue

abattoirs By Dominic Kennedy

THE National Farmers Union is considering suing abattoirs for the spread of

The farmers' union is seeking legal advice about the

chances of winning damages because sheep offal fed to cattle in the 1980s was infected with scrapie, probably the cause of BSE. However, there

is usually a six-year limit on suing for damages. The union sought advice some years ago about similar action and was told it would be very difficult. Farmers could issue writs against the abattoirs or the

suppliers of the sheep meat.

for a public inquiry to estab-

lish how the disease may have

spread from cattle to humans.

David Body, of the law firm

Irwin Mitchell, acknowledged it would be difficult to sue

through the courts on the

strength of the evidence so far.

would be the prime target for

any civil action because of its

role as a regulator but. Mr Body said, there was contro-

versy over the duties to the public of a government body.

FOR one group of farmers "mad cow disease" has proved

to be a boon rather than a

slaughtered each year.

One of the biggest is Helen

Browning, who keeps 250

dairy cows and produces

about 150 beef cattle a year at

To meet organic standards,

she has to observe strict rules on what she can feed her

consists of forage, supple-

Bishopstone in Wiltshire.

The Ministry of Agriculture

Lawyers for the families of CJD victims yesterday called

'mad cow" disease.

while Health Minister, said most of Britain's farmed chickens were infected with salmonella.

Feelings are running high in the meat trade, which employs about 40,000 people. The decision to delay until Sunday an announcement about the effect of BSE on

COMPENSATION

children has further worried

producers and retailers. The Meat and Livestock Commission is considering a one-off levy on members to fund an advertising campaign extolling the virtues of British beef. John Fuller, chief executive of the National Federation of Meat and Food Traders which represents 3,500 independent butcher's shops, said: "We will be fighting hard once

our members about the virtues of British beef. But it is a real pain that every time the scare goes away the Government releases another batch of information.

We have been left dangling in the air with the prospect of more announcements at the weekend. Mrs Browning, at our meeting, agreed to meet with us to discuss our concerns over compensation if there is a collapse in sales."

The ministry can artificially support the price of beef through intervention in the market. It can buy beef, freeze it and sell it back to the market when demand has recovered. "It is an option open to us through the common agriculture policy," a spokesman said. "Whether we would give compensation to farmers direct has not been considered at this stage.

242,061 tonnes

Outbreak probably started in sheep

By NIGEL HAWKES SCIENCE EDITOR

BSE in Britain probably originated from sheep flocks that carried an especially resilient form of scrapie, veterinary scientists believe.

When, in the 1970s and early SOs, two vital changes were made to the procedures for producing animal feed from sheep carcasses, this particular scrapie agent proved tough enough to survive in sufficient. amounts to infect cows.

The epidemic then multiplied when infection was recycled from BSE-infected carcasses, before the feeding of protein derived from both cows and sheep was banned in July 1988. Meat and bonemealfrom sheep carcasses had been used for cattle feeds for years -

ORIGINS

before BSE appeared. The evidence is that it was changes in rendering procedures, partly to economise on energy consumption, that enabled the infective agent to survive.

Lower temperatures in the rendering process and a decline in the use of solvents to extract fats from animal bones and offal combined to cause the problem. Steam was used in the final stage of solvent extraction, which could have helped to destroy the scrapie gent present in the bones.

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No official approval was needed for these changes. Scientists were aware that sheep had been suffering from scrapie, probably for centuries, but there was no evidence that it could be transmitted to humans or cows. Like BSE and CJD, scrapie is a prior disease but it appeared to pose

no threat to human health. The evidence that BSE originated from a single scrapie strain comes from the observation that the agent of BSE in all British cows appears to be identical. When injected into mice, samples of the BSE agent from all over the country produce the same symptoms after the same incubation period. This is in contrast to the variety of incubation periods and patterns of brain damage found when scrapie agent from dif-ferent sheep flocks is used to infect the mice.

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writes). organic beef producers in Britain, accounting for just 12,000 of the 3.3 million cattle

ORGANIC FARMING

disaster (Michael Hornsby mented by organically grown rolled oats and high-protein soya. Sales of Mrs Browning's No cow born and bred on organic farms has succumbed beef rose by about 15 per cent last December when BSE was last in the news. "People are to BSE, leading to growing interest in the beef produced by the small number of farmlooking more closely at what they eat," she said. "There is ers who rear livestock in this way. There are only 200 no doubt that BSE has con-

tributed to that."

Disaster brings

business boom

Because output is lower than conventional farms, organic farmers have to charge more. Mrs Browning charges a premium of up to 25 per cent which customers are prepared to pay because they are assured of quality. But the price of organic produce is likely to mean that organic farmers cattle. The bulk of their diet will never be able supply more

than a niche market.

we just wanted

or more cases of BSE since 1986.

An export trade worth £520 million a year is Outside the EU. South Africa is by far the in jeopardy after the decision by France. biggest destination for British beef, taking Britain's biggest market, to impose an immediate ban on imports of British beef. 27,055 tonnes. Although beef exports were badly hit six years ago when BSE first became a public health issue, they have Belgium has followed suit and other countries may do likewise, threatening one of climbed steadily since, more than doubling Britain's most successful exports in spite of from the 1990 level of 110,000 tonnes. Exports intermittent concern over BSE. The alarm will undoubtedly prove much barder to quell have also been greatly helped by the devaluation of the pound since 1992. Even a than previous scares and Britain may this partial export ban, requiring all beef to be time be unable to fend off demands for a certified as coming from a herd which has Europe-wide ban. The total value of beef never had BSE, would have a big impact. exports is £520 million, of which European Union countries account for £457 million. Just over half of all dairy herds have had one

Short incubation period may explain youth of victims

SCIENCE EDITOR

THERE is no evidence that children or young people are especially vulnerable to infection with the new form of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, a leading expert said vesterday.

The ten cases so far identified have an average age of 27 but James Ironside, of the CJD surveillance unit at Western General Hospital in Edin-burgh said that this did not point to a greater vulnerability

among the young.
"If we accept the hypothesis that these cases are caused by exposure to BSE, then if the entire population was exposed, the disease would appear first in the young because their incubation period is shorter." Dr Ironside said.

If this is correct, then as time passes older people will also start appearing with the distinctive symptoms of the new form of the disease.

Why the incubation period should be shorter in young people is not known, though it has been observed in similar diseases. In Kuru, the disease spread by cannibalism in Papua New Guinea, the youngest patient was aged five.

One possibility is simply a

CJD INFECTION

said. The nerves are shorter in children," he said. "If we assume that the causative agent has to make its way up the spinal column to the brain, it will take less time if the spine is shorter."

An alternative explanation, suggested by John Wilson, a consultant neurologist from Great Ormond Street Hospital in London, is that young people are simply more exposed to the causative agent because of their taste for fast foods, including beefburgers: The truth is, we don't know."

Given that the new cases suggest that the infective agent can jump from cows to man. the question that will determine the number of cases is the ease with which this barrier" can be jumped. For years, ministers have insisted that any such jump was very unlikely; that claim must now be abandoned. But if the barrier is a high one, the number of cases might remain low.

Experiments in progress at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, might provide an answer. function of size. Dr Ironside infectious agent responsible

The causative agent of all the spongiform encephalopathics - scrapic in sheep, BSE in cows, and CJD in humans - is believed to be an aberrant form of the prion protein. Normally, prions are harm-less proteins found on the surface of brain cells but they can be altered into a modified form which causes the brain changes seen in the disease. The alteration of the prior

(the word stands for "proteinaceous infectious particle" may occur spontaneously, may have genetic causes, or may happen when normal pri-on protein comes into contact with the abnormal type — as in BSE and, it appears, CJD. While not all experts accept

the prion model of CJD, it is certainly the leading candidate. One problem is that it is difficult to explain the various strains of the prion diseases by such a simple model.



No beef at home, but Amy Adams loves burgers

Burgers remain children's school dinner favourite

FACED with the choice of beelburgers or chicken pie yesterday, nine out of ten primary pupils went for the juicy quarter pounder.

Even when one curious seven-year-old asked the headmaster, who lunched with them, what all the fuss was about, the children carried on eating as he tried to explain that "some people think heef might not be safe

Tony Hawkins, head of Fairisle Junior School in Southampton, where there are 305 pupils aged seven to 11. said: I told them that there was a question over whether beef might be safe to eat, but they all carried on eating their burgers.

They are too young really to understand what is going on and they do love beefburgers. It's always the most popular choice."

Mr Hawkins, who has been headmaster at the school since 1983, said he had only received one phone call so far from a concerned parent about the scare. However, he expected it to be

one of the main topics of conversation at a parents' evening later that day.

He said: "It is Hampshire's policy to offer beef in schools, always with an alternative. Until that changes, we will have to carry on as we are. I still eat beef myself."

One parent, Julie Adams. 32 had already written requesting beef to be withdrawn. As she waited for Amy, II, and Ashley, I0, she said: "I raised the matter some time last year, but was just told that my children have a choice if they want it.

"I don't want them eating beef, but try getting them to eat other things when there are burgers on the menu. I haven't eaten it for two years. but it's difficult to stop kids



Sign of the times: beef

eating it when they get it at school."

Jenny Middleton, 58, who was picking up her grand-children Claire, 10, Sarah. nine and Lucy, seven, said: "I don't eat red meat for health reasons, never mind BSE. It's a disgrace that the Government has only just warned people when they must have known there was

She said she was babysitting her grand daugh-ters at their home that evening. "I've just had a look in the freezer to see what there is for tea," she added. "it's all burgers and mince. I'm not happy, but that's all they seem to eat."

Darren Rankin seemed unconcerned about Aaron. nine and Carly, eight, being led burgers at school. He said: "They love them and we eat a lot of them at home. You can't spend your life worrying about something that will probably never happen. It's much more dangerous driving a car, but we still do it."

Aaron nodded in agreement with his dad and added: "Burgers are my

Councils react with instant ban to protect pupils

By Stephen Farrell

SCHOOLS around the country banned beef from their menus yesterday as caterers accused health ministers of spreading confusion over

Up to 10,000 schools, one third of the total, have either removed beef from dinner tables or limited its use, the Local Authority Caterers' As-Sociation claims. Derbyshire, Bedfordshire. Cleveland. Clwyd, Nottinghamshire and Berkshire county councils and Birmingham City Council all announced an immediate or delayed beef ban, which is already in place in Cambridgeshire. Kent. East Sussex and Ealing. The ban was also announced yesterday in Gloucestershire and all 255 schools in Bradford.

All primary, nursery and special schools and ten secondary schools in Manchester have withdrawn beef. Durham. Cumbria, Calderdale, Islington and Sunderland authorities joined those who plan to review their policy. while others are leaving the

decision to individual schools. Pat Fellowes, chairman of the caterers' association. which represents 70 authorities, said councils awaited the outcome of weekend discussions on BSE and children. Parents, pupils, teachers and caterers are confused and want public confidence re-stored." she said. "In the SCHOOL MEALS

local authority caterers items so that there are always alternatives to beef."

The largest supplier of school meals. BET Catering Services, said that the decision to withdraw beef was at the discretion of local authoriauthorities to which we proremoved beef from the primary school menu, and those that haven't are giving it serious consideration," a spokeswoman said.

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities planned to relax its guidelines on beef on Wednesday, but withdrew the decision after the government's announcement. Graham Lane, chairman of its education committee, said guidance recommending a ban or offering options on menus would stay in force

for the foreseeable future". "The government has confased everyone," she said. "It has now given the impression that all beef is dangerous. I don't think it meant to do that, but that is what has come out. Many authorities feel puzzled the line has changed so dra-matically. I think most people feel we may have to keep beef off menus completely."

Euro-ban on beef

Continued from page I and the European Commission's agriculture spokesman said that France had broken EU rules by failing to give notice of the ban.

But the French agriculture ministry defended the move by citing two European directives which, it said, permined such action in "cases of doubt about the sanitary quality of a product or animal".

In the past three months France has tightened health controls and cross-horder inspections, but resisted demands from farmers for a complete ban on British beef. These were renewed before the embargo was announced yesterday when Claude Allo of the French National Canle Federation said: "The English are in danger of exporting to us the problem they have already stirred up in English public opinion. There is only one thing to be done: stop these imports as a matter of

The Agriculture Minister Philippe Vasseur responded with an announcement that he

Cheaper l insurance Call Admiral now 0800 600 800 was suspending imports of British beef and live cattle "to provide all the necessary guarantees to French consumers pending the full results of European scientific experts in this matter".

Belgium also announced a ban on imports, which total about 8,000 tonnes a year and are worth about £12 million. while The Netherlands said it was suspending imports of live cattle, beef and beef prod-ucts from Britain until the Commission made its definirive ruling on Monday.

There was one crumb of comfort for the Government when Denmark dismissed the other countries' bans as "a very violent reaction".

At Westminster, however, the Government came under attack from Labour which accused ministers of procrastination and delay. Tony Blair called for "a categorical statement" that the scientific advice was that it was "entirely safe" to carry on feeding beefburgers to children. The clearer and better those statements, the sooner public con-cern will be allayed," he said.

But the Prime Minister stopped short of giving that categorical assurance, saying only that there was no scientific evidence to suggest children

were more at risk than adults. Despite such assurances. more schools joined the ten thousand that had already ahandoned serving beef. Ten authorities announced bans at all or some of their schools yesterday and another five are to review their policies.

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Nurse accepts £50,000 for race prejudice

By Richard Ford, home correspondent

A PAKISTANI-BORN nurse has won £50,000 from a National Health Service trust over allegations that she was the victim of racial discrimination and harassment.

Nargis Firdous said she had been hounded for more than 12 months by her white boss at the Bethlem psychiatric hospital in Denmark Hill, south London.

Mrs Firdous, 43, a regis-

tered mental nurse earning £27,000, also complained yesterday that Unison, her union, had not taken her complaints seriously. After reaching an out-of-court settlement, Mrs Firdous, of Streatham, south London, said: "The money has compensated me to some extent but my losses are much more than £50,000. It was not an issue of winning or losing, it was a matter of principle."

Mrs Firdous, who trained in Pakistan but has worked as a nurse in Britain for 20 years, brought her case with the help of the Commission

A PAKISTANI-BORN nurse for Racial Equality after has won \$50,000 from a being sacked in 1994.

She was appointed manager of a ward of difficult psychiatric patients at the hospital in 1991 and inspectors complimented her on her energy, commitment and experience. In 1993 a new line manager was appointed and began to try to have Mrs Firdous removed, claiming she was "unsafe and dangerous".

Mrs Firdous said yesterday that a white colleague who replaced her for six months was not accused of being "unsafe or dangerous" even though in one 24-hour period there were 12 fires on the ward. On another occasion a patient was absent without permission and subsequently committed suicide, but the white manager was not blamed.

Mrs Firdous took the Beth-

lem and Maudsley NHS
Trust and Michol Fisher, her
manager, to an industrial tribunal. After 11 days she accepted the £50,000 settlement.



Nargis Firdous yesterday outside the offices in London of the Commission for Racial Equality

Blunkett moves to upstage government plans

Labour seeks to double sixth-formers' workload

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

SIXTH-FORMERS should spend almost twice as long in the classroom to try to match the achievements of their continental counterparts, Lahour said yesterday in measures designed to trump government plans to be announced next week.

The typical A-level student has about 18 hours of lessons a week, compared with 30 for courses in France and Germany. Labour wants to bridge the gap with new programmes to broaden the curriculum.

broaden the curriculum.

David Blunkett, the Shadow Education Secretary, announcing the Aiming High policy document, said pupils might spend part of the extra time on supervised use of high-tech learning packages, rather than formal lessons. Bryan Davies, Labour spokesman on further and higher education, said students were more extended at GCSE than at A level, particularly if sixth-formers took a limited number of subjects. Sixth-formers tak-

ing A levels or vocational qualifications should learn "core skills" required by employers, such as communication, advanced numeracy and the use of information technology. But David Summerscale.

headmaster of Westminster School, where sixth-formers average more than three As at A level on six hours' tuition a week per subject, said students needed time for independent study, to master learning for themselves. David Hart, of the National Association of Head Teachers, said Labour risked appearing to tell teachers and students "that the nanny state knows best".

Tony Evans, headmaster of Portsmouth Grammar School- and chairman of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, welcomed the scope for breadth at A level but added: "It is, of course, a fallacy to believe that the more time you spend on something the better the results."

Several of Labour's propos-



Blunkett: announced Labour policy document

als mirror reforms expected to be put forward next week by Sir Ron Dearing, the Government's senior curriculum adviser: Among them are an Advanced Diploma linking academic and vocational qualifications, work-related courses in further education colleges for some 14-year-olds, and a move to raise the status of advanced vocational courses by calling them Applied A Levels. The diploma would be awarded for a minimum of two A levels or a General National Vocational Qualification and success in the core skills.

In another echo of Sir Ron's plans, high-flyers could take modules of university courses while still at school.

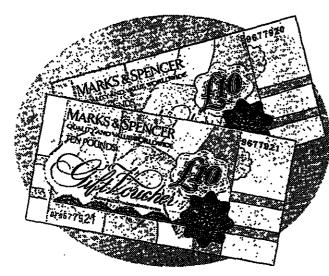
Pupils aged under 16 might spend a day or half a day at further education college on job-related topics, without sacrificing the national curriculum. Mr Blunkett said. He admitted that colleges would not be falling over themselves to take in disaffected 14-year-olds who currently spent their time playing truant.

Peter Smith. of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers. gave warning that the scheme could become an "excuse for licensed truanting". But John Dunford, of the Secondary Heads Association, said the courses could motivate young people.

Education, page 36

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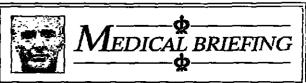
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Vitamin E cuts the likelihood of a heart attack



HIGH doses of vitamin E can reduce the risk of a coronary by 75 per cent in patients with heart disease, research has found.

A team of Cambridge University medical scientists led by Professor Morris Brown and Dr Malcolm Mitchinson has been studying the effect of vitamin E supplements on 2.000 patients with heart disease. Their findings, published in The Lancet, show that vitamin E supplements are more effective than aspirin or cholesterol-lowering drugs in preventing heart

Many fatty foods, including butter, peanuts, sunflower and soya oil, are rich in vitamin E but all have a high calorific value and some are not suitable for cardiac patients.

tients.

However, not even the strictest dictitian would object to a patient with heart disease eating olives, mackerel, tuna, herrings and salmon, all foods with a naturally high vitamin E content; and the diet would be even better if the salmon was accompanied by asparagus, the vegetable richest in vitamin E.

richest in vitamin E.

However, even if a cardiac patient was to have a traditional Mediterranean diet supplemented with salmon and asparagus at every meal, they would not achieve levels of vitamin E high enough to alter the risk of heart disease to the same extent that has been demonstrated by the Cambridge experiment. The

daily intake of vitamin E in a well-balanced diet is between 10.4 and 13.4 international units. Professor Brown's and Dr

Mitchinson's patients were given between 400 and 800 IUs daily. When taking vitamin E at these doses, the risk of a heart attack was no greater for one of their cardiac patients than it would be for people who were not suffering from any detectable heart complaint.

A vitamin-enriched diet has been scorned by more traditional doctors ever since vitamins were discovered. The accepted teaching is that supplements are unnecessary if someone's diet is well-balanced and, in the case of some vitamins, can be dangerous.

No vitamin has been more controversial than vitamin E. Its value has been understood only since study of the ability of the anti-oxidant vitamins, of which E is one, to prevent atherosclerosis (furring of the arteries).

Vitamin E supplements are particularly important for heavy drinkers as alcohol depresses levels of the vitamin, as do iron or vitamin A supplements. As vitamin E is fat-soluble, it should be taken with food. Earlier research has suggested that the vitamin is more beneficial if the daily allowance is taken in several doses.

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

STATE OF VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

ELECTION

SATURDAY 30 MARCH 1996

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If you are travelling throughout Europe, Asia or the United States, you may vote at a Postal Voting Centre at selected Australian Embassies.

For the nearest Postal Voting Centre, telephone Victoria House, London on 0171 836 2656, or enquire at any Australian Embassy.

In the UR, you may vote in person during weekdays between 9.30am and 4.30pm at Victoria House, until 4.30pm on Friday 29 March 1996.

Please note there will be no voting facilities at Victoria House on election day, Saturday 30 March.

How to Vote by Post

You may apply for postal voting material to be sent to an address nominated by you. Applications are available from Victoria House by telephoning 0171 836 2656.

Electoral Roll Enquiries

The roll for the 1996 State Election closed on 8 March 1996.

Victorian electors may make enquiries in person regarding their enrolment at Victoria House.

Australian Embassies will not be able to answer enquiries regarding enrolment for the 1996 Victorian Election. All enquiries should be made to Victorian House.

Iain Mariand
Postal Voting Officer

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.Women-only classes in driving safety break equality law

A GARAGE that runs carsafety classes for women only was told yesterday it was breaking the law by excluding men. The move, which will have implications for a variety of organisations, angered

Local authorities, clubs and police who run safery, car maintenance and fitness classes could all be affected.

In a statement, the Equal Opportunities Commission said women-only classes breached Section 29 of the Sexual Discrimination Act of 1975. Anyone running them could "lay themselves open to a legal challenge".

The Department for Education and Employment confirmed that classes for women only broke the law. A spokeswoman said the law was not clear on organisations that implied by the titles of classes that men were not welcome, as there had been no test cases. Organisations could not get round the law by offering separate classes for men and

The dispute began when

Sandicliffe Motors, a Ford dealership in likeston, Derbyshire, sought clarification on a promotion which included cost-price petrol and cheap car-servicing for women drivers. During discussions, the Equal Opportunities Commission advised the garage that its women's workshops, run for five years, could also be

The RAC, which has run "women's workshops" for 100,000 female drivers over the past five years, said it would review its classes but described the advice from the commission as "nonsense". Its workshops, begun after the murder of Marie Wilks on the M50 in 1988, were unashamedly aimed at women. Men were welcome but, a spokes-man said: "We feel it is important to keep the word 'women' in the title so women don't get put off." A spokeswoman for Sandicliffe Motors said: "We were told we were breaking the law and the EOC said it could challenge them itself if we went ahead. It is ridiculous."

The classes featured safety videos and a lecture by a crime prevention officer. Women don't want men there," said the spokeswoman. Fiona Brown, of the Suzy

Lamplugh Trust, set up after Miss Lamplugh, an estate agent, was abducted, said: "It is most unhelpful. These classes are addressed to people who want to feel more secure when driving alone." Anne Peck, of the Centre for

Independent Transport Research, which has studied women's attitudes to safety while travelling, said: "Wo-men ought to have a choice. Some women have had experiences which deter them from attending classes where men are present. A number of studies have shown there is a



Lifeboatmen struggling with Queenie, the rapidly growing 7ft conger eel that they have helped to return to its spawning ground in the Azores

RNLI berth aids an expectant eel

By A STAFF REPORTER

LIFEBOAT crew has come to the aid of a 7ft conger eel. The 70lb fish, named Queenie, was given a lift at the start of its journey to the Azores, spawning ounds of the conger cel, by the crew of the Edmund and

Joan White.

The eel had been at the Dove Marine Laboratory at Cullercoats, Tyne and Wear. for six years after being caught in a fisherman's nets. When it outgrew its tank the eel was taken to Tynemouth Sea Life Centre, before staff realised the reason for its rapid growth was that it was

full of eggs.

The only place it could safely release them is in the deep spawning grounds of the Azores 4,000 metres below the surface, where the pressure will force the millions of eggs from its body. Spawning will be Queenie's last task because it will die

after releasing the eggs. However, the eel had to be even a flying start by the lifeboatmen. After a bit of a boat, they took the fish a mile



into the sea where it will join other migrating eels on a journey that will last until

late spring. Justin Measures, Sea Life's senior aquarist, said: If we had just put her in the sea from the shore there is a een washed back. But the lifeboat gave her a fighting chance of making it to the

Azores in safety."

Raymond Taylor, the lifeboat secretary at Cullercoats, said: "We were happy to do a good turn for the Sea Life centre because it has always helped us with fundraising.

Cambridge dons oppose tobacco firm's £1.6m gift

By David Charter, education correspondent

A £1.6 million donation may be turned down by Cambridge University because of a dispute about the ethics of accepting tobacco company profits.

Senior members of the university are said to be "wobdonation from BAT to set up the Sir Patrick Sheehy Professorship of International Relations, in honour of its former chairman. The money would also provide two post-doctoral posts, scholarships for overseas students and bursaries.

Academics opposed to the sponsorship hope to force a ste of all 3,000 full university members if the money is accepted at a university council meeting next term. It has but strong opposition emerged at a private debate this week.

Earlier this month Oxford dons criticised a £350.000 donation from Dr Gert-Rudolf Flick, the grandson of a prominent Nazi industrialist, to set up a professorship at Balliol

Sir Keith Peters, Regius Professor of Physic, told the private meeting of Cambridge academics that, although such a large contribution would be helpful, the moral cost would be too great. Professor Timothy Cox, of the Department of Medicine, said: "This is a very major and complex issue. My position as a doctor is a very strong one against smoking and all of us in the medical school would err on that side."

Sir David Williams, the Vice-Chancellor, welcomed BAT's offer: "I had the privilege of working with Sir Patrick Sheehy in the successful effort to bring the Royal Commonwealth Library to Cambridge. We are delighted to be able to honour him in this way. He has made an outstanding contribution in the field of public relations."

Nick Forbes, the Student money is coming from, beg One in eight street lights in turned off to save £160,000, the county council decided yesterday. But a £25,000 donation from the city's council will allow Cambridge to remain fully lit, appeasing students who said the measure would jeopardise their safety. The county council also voted to curb roadbuilding, bridge maintenance, gritting and new pedestrian crossings.

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

Howard to reveal third annual drop in recorded crime

By Stewart Tendler and Richard Ford

RECORDED crime in England and Wales fell by about 2 per cent last year, boosting the Government's claim to be curbing criminal behaviour.

The third successive annual drop will be hailed by Michael Howard as evidence that, for the time being, the cycle of rapidly rising crime has been broken. The figures will show, however, that offences rose during the second half of the year after a significant drop in the first six months.

the first six months.

Ministers will be anxious that the trend has not continued into this year, and there will also be ministerial concern at a rise in recorded violent crimes.

violent crimes.

The figures, to be published next week, will show a further decline in vehicle crime, theft and household burglary. The decline in burglary is attributed, in part, to police activity such as Operation Bumblebee. The Home Secretary believes increased use of technology, particularly the

spread of closed-circuit television, is an important factor.
There is concern, however, that the decline in crime may have ended. Recorded crime fell 5 per cent in 1994 and 1 per und cent in 1993, having reached a star

fell 5 per cent in 1994 and 1 per cent in 1993, having reached a record level in 1992. One Whitehall source said: "It has plateaued out. It is getting much harder to produce the falls that the Government wants to see."

The recorded crime statis-

tics are based on the number of offences reported to police. An alternative view is given by the British Crime Survey, based on interviews with a representative sample of 10,000 people: it has consistently shown a much higher rate than the police statistics.

rate than the police statistics.
Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, said last night: "Recorded crime figures must be treated with caution.

"The fall in crime could be because police recording methods have changed and fewer people are reporting crime because they do not think the police will catch anyone." He added that the underlying trend could be starting to rise again.

The number of arrests declined last year although some individual forces showed large rises in the number of people detained. In Northumbria, which Mr Howard is expected to visit soon, arrests were up 25 per cent and overall the force has shown a drop in crime for the past five years.

Durham is understood to have recorded a drop of about 1! per cent in overall crime and a 23 per cent decline in violent offences. The Metropolitan Police will also report a further fall.

Merseyside and Cambridgeshire are expected to report large increases in crime. Officials at the Home Office attributed the rise in Cambridgeshire to a new recording system.



Stella Rimington believes that the renewed terrorist campaign presents a grave security risk

New head of MI5 must tackle IRA terror threat

By Michael Evans Defence correspondent

DAME Stella Rimington hands over her post as Director-General of MI5 next week as the renewed IRA bombing campaign poses a grave challenge to her successor.

Stephen Lander, 48, whose appointment as Dame Stella's replacement was announced last November, is expected to devote much of his time to surveillance of suspected IRA members on the mainland and protection of possible targets for assassination. Government officials who played a crucial role in formulating John Major's latest peace initiatives in Northern Ireland are known to be under 24-hour armed police guard.

The most recent respite from IRA bombs, after the Docklands explosion last month and the three subsequent bombs, has given no grounds for believing that the renewed campaign was merely a brief flurry to accelerate the peace process. Military bases and other facilities that appeared on the list found at the Lewisham home of



Lander: former director of counter-terrorism

Edward O'Brien, the IRA homber who was killed in the Aldwych bus explosion, remain on heightened alert.

Dame Stella, 60, who succeeded in persuading Michael Howard, the Home Secretary, to allow MIS to help the police in combating organised crime, has found herself in the past few weeks devoting most of her energies towards countering the new IRA threat. Mr Lander, who is a former director of Irish

counter-terrorism at MI5, will be expected to launch a renewed effort to forestall any further mainland attacks.

Dame Stella is acknowledged both within the Security Service and outside to have been a highly successful director-general. By adopting a public profile, giving lectures about the service and its aims and publishing brochures, she has helped to remove longstanding suspicions about MI5's role in Whitehall.

Her next job has not yet been announced. She had been considered for the post of Master of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, to succeed Lord St John of Fawsley, but narrowly failed to be chosen. She is known to want a job oustide government but may be offered a new security role in the Cabinet Office.

☐ A detective who helped to spearhead the secret war against the IRA after being severely maimed in a terrorist bombing died from cancer yesterday. Chief Superintendent Frank Murray, 51, refused to quit the force when he lost a leg, an arm and an eye in the attack 20 years ago.

Man bailed over death in Spain

A man was remanded on bail by Bow Street magistrates yesterday accused of killing a 14-year-old girl in a road accident in southern Spain seven years ago.

seven years ago.

Peter Dawson-Ball, 42, of St Martin's, Guernsey, is charged with the manslaughter of Lizanne Pinna, whose family lived on Gibraltar, in 1989, within the jurisdiction of the Central Criminal Court.

Charges dropped

Three men arrested in connection with an arson attack last month on the car of Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, at his home in Norton sub Hamdon, Somerset, will not, face charges, Avon and Somerset police said.

Tanker to go

The damaged supertanker Sea Empress, which spilt 72,000 tonnes of oil on the South Wales coast last month, is to be moved next week to Belfast for repairs. The Harland and Wolff ship-yard beat off international competition for the contract.

Six life terms

Scott Vowis, 24, a barman, of Bermondsey, south London, who murdered Judy Newell, 35, and her five children by setting fire to their fourth-floor flat, was given six life sentences at the Old Bailey. The Newell family had not been his intended target.

Beggar jailed

Andrew Sophocleous, 28, a beggar who had been under the influence of drink and drugs, was jailed for four years by Southwark Crown Court. He attacked a passerby in Camden, north London, with a broken bottle after his plea for change was refused.

Show thawed off

A matinee performance of a skating spectacular at the Apollo theatre, Oxford, was cancelled after vandals tampered with ice-making equipment. The Zin-thick ice, which began to melt, was refrozen to allow the evening performance to go ahead.

Potatoes dominate starchy options

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BY ROBIN YOUNG

STARCHY foods are the basis of a healthy diet, and though pasta and rice have gained popularity, potatoes are still the favourite British choice, accounting for half the nation's vegetable consumption.

Retailers are obliged to identify the variety of the potatoes they offer for sale. Potatoes are the only fruit or vegetable to which this rule applies, so customers should check each variety's suitability for different purposes, because

they vary widely.
Promotions include:
Asda: Bell's whisky 70cl for £11.99, sparkling Chardonney 75cl for £3.99, chicken tike 400g for £1.49.

Budgens: cucumbers 55p each, Scottish smoked salmon 200g for E3.99, Sara Lee

SHOPING

chocolate gateau 340g for 99p: Co-op: Dolmio hot and spicy lasagne 350g for £1.09, Müllerice 200g for 29p, Mellow Birds coffee 100g for £1.49. Harrods: turkey breast 100g for £1.65, free range loin of pork 1kg for £6.49.

pork lkg for £6.49.

Iceland: turkey cheese burgers 4 for 99p. Mediterranean fish bake 300g for 99p.

Marks & Spencer: frozen

Black Forest gateau 540g for £1.99, four hot cross buns 65p, fresh salad 600g for £1.99. Morrison: fresh ham & mushroom tagliatelli 340g for £1.29, Onken Biopot peach yogurt

500g for 79p.
Safeway: Bulgarian Cabernet
Saseway: Bulgarian Cabernet
Safeway: Bulgari

Sainsbury's: assorted biscuits 400g for 69p, scampi in crispy crumb 340g for £2.65, steak cut chips 1816g £1.49. Somerfield: Jaffa oranges lkg

Somerfield: Jaffa oranges lkg for 99p, watercress 75g for 75p, traditional sausages 454g for 79p, unsmoked back bacon 510g for £2.49. Teson: wholewheat delive

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Tesco: wholewheat deluxe muesli 1.5kg for £1.99, shep-herd's pie 709g for 99p, Chilean white wine 75cl for £2.79.

Waitrose: Empire apples 1.25kg for £1.49, large avocados 75p each, Belgian truffles 200g for £2.95.



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VAT tribunal refuses to allow fanciers any exemption after ruling that birds do all the work

Pigeon racing is no sport of Queens, says taxman

BRITISH pigeon fanciers - a group including the Queen were told yesterday that their passion is not a sport. Because the bird does the work, the VAT-man has decided pigeon racing is merely a hobby and does not qualify for the tax exemption applied to other

The decision, handed down by a Customs and Excise tribunal in Bristol. has staggered representatives of Britain's 80,000 fanciers, who include Jack Duckworth from the television soap Coronation Street. They point to a host of other activities that do qualify, including pool, angling and yoga.

John Brown, president of the North of England Homing Union, said: I don't see how they can regard angling as a sport. You just sit there holding a stick over a bit of water. Pigeon racing is far more demanding. People take it very seriously. We all talk to our birds and a few wives feel



Jack Duckworth of Coronation Street fame and the Queen are both enthusiastic pigeon fanciers

their men love their pigeons

In all 114 activities are exempt from VAT. from aikido to yoga. Greyhound racing is not, but horse racing and motor sports are. Among the less strenuous events regarded as sports for VAT purposes are

ballooning, baton-twirling and bowls.

Fanciers meet in two weeks to decide whether they should take their case to the European Court of Justice. They believe they have a good case as pigeon fanciers in Ireland,

by the Royal Pigeon Racing Association, whose patron is the Queen, after a change in the law allowed sports club members to claim thousands of pounds in VAT refunds on membership fees, backdated to 1990. British bird fanciers pay about £30,000 VAT on annual subscriptions. Major Edward Camilleri,

the association's general man-ager, argued that pigeon racng was physical enough to be classed as a sport. Preparation for a race involved feeding, cleaning, driving and lifting birdcages weighing up to 40lb In some sports recognised by the VAT commissioners including gliding and yoga there was little physical activity. However, a Sports Council representative suggested that sport should "encourage people in acquiring physical skills and undertaking physi-

cal effort". The council does not recognise pigeon racing.
The tribunal ruled: The individual must be taking part in the sport, which we inter-



activity and not some ancillary activity. We appreciate individuals do take part in some important steps, such as recording the time of arrival but this is not the main sporting activity, which is the race itself. The activities of the

owner are purely incidental." Bill Stokoe, a VAT specialist with the accountants KPMG, said: "The law has gone mad. No official could convince me that fanciers do not regard pigeon racing as a sport." A racing association spokes-

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man said: "Obviously we are

disappointed, particularly is ridiculous. At the end of race when you consider some of the activities that are classed as sports." Mr Brown, 59, a retired council official from Washington, Tyne and Wear. and a pigeon racer for 50 years, said: "To say this is not physical enough to be a sport

day I'm a physical wreck, Members can spend six hours a day on their birds. They have to be fed and groomed and their lofts cleaned out. It's very physically demanding."

Leading article, page 19

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Gummer wrong to let wetland become car depot

BY NICK NUTTALL ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

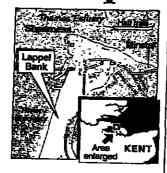
Hions

BRITAIN acted illegally in allowing part of a wildlife haven to be concreted over for a car depot, according to a ruling from the European Court of Justice yesterday. The court's Advocate General, whose opinions are usually agreed by the full court, found Britain guilty in what could be a landmark decision.

Lappel Bank on the River Medway near Sheerness in Kent was part of a "wetland of international importance" protected under EU law, and home to rare birds, the oi Advocate General said. It was wrong for the Government to have excluded half of the bank from the Special Protection Area listing under the Euronean Union's Birds Directive economic interests over the interests of

the environment, he said. In 1993 John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, decided that some of the bank, which is home to species such as the curlew and grey plover. was needed to support the expansion of Sheerness. Half of the bank has now been turned into a site where cars imported from Japan are

News of the decision came as an alliance of conservation groups unveiled a report claiming that nearly every aspect of the British environment was deteriorating. The second Green Gauge survey of data, published by a coalition of green groups including the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds and the World Wide Fund for Nature. showed that species such as the skylark and song thrush



were vanishing because their traditional habitats were being destroyed. Rural land was being built

on at the rate of more than 11.000 hectares a year, while vehicle use continued to rise, contributing to the problem of climate change. Meanwhile, overfishing was leading to the loss of traditional stocks such as haddock and cod. But it was not all bad news

the report's authors said. The water quality of many rivers had improved within the past ten years, and the level of awareness of transport issues. such as roadbuilding, had increased largely thanks to protests such as that against the Newbury bypass, it was claimed.

The environmentalist Jonathon Porritt told a news conference to launch the report, which the coalition hopes to introduce to schools: "There is no cause for celebration despite a considerably higher level of public awareness and political dialogue about environmental issues. Too many of the indicators are moving in the wrong direction.

*Our environment is getting worse, even the Government's figures say so. There must now be immediate action to stem the tide of environmental degradation in the UK."

Sea eagles approach the test of survival

By GILLIAN BOWDITCH

CONSERVATIONISTS bying to reintroduce the whitetailed sea eagle to Britain believe that the first chicks reared in the wild will start to produce young of their own this year or next.

There are now ten breeding pairs in Scotland, all of them introduced as chicks from Norway, and the first eggs of the season are beginning to hatch. In the next three months the project team from Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds will know whether they have beaten the record of seven chicks successfully

reared in one year. The reintroduction programme began in 1975 when chicks from Norway were released on the island of Rhum: 82 birds were released on the island over II years. The second phase of the project started three years ago and so far 26 young birds have been released into the wild at a secret site in the

extreme north of Scotland. A total of 46 chicks have hatched in the wild but none



Sea eagle chicks were reintroduced in 1975

of those chicks, which take at least five years to mature, has raised young of its own, the crucial proof that the Scottish population of sea eagles can support themselves.

Last year a wild-bred bird teamed up with a released sea eagle and ornithologists believe they could breed this year for the first time.

Kevin Duffy, sea eagle pro-ject officer with SNH, says he is optimistic that their will be 20 breeding pairs in Scotland by 2003. During the next century Britain's largest bird of prey, with a wingspan of almost 10ft, may be a common sight in the Highlands. The last indigenous female sea eagle was shot on Shetland in 1918.

The story of the sea eagles will be told tonight at 8pm in BBCI's Operation Survival, in Scotland only.

"You're not sure your health insurance will pay my bill, are you?"

bought budget health insurance schemes. inevitably, this has meant compromising on the level of cover. Until now. Because Primecare, a new policy from Prime Health, actually provides comprehensive cover at a budget price.

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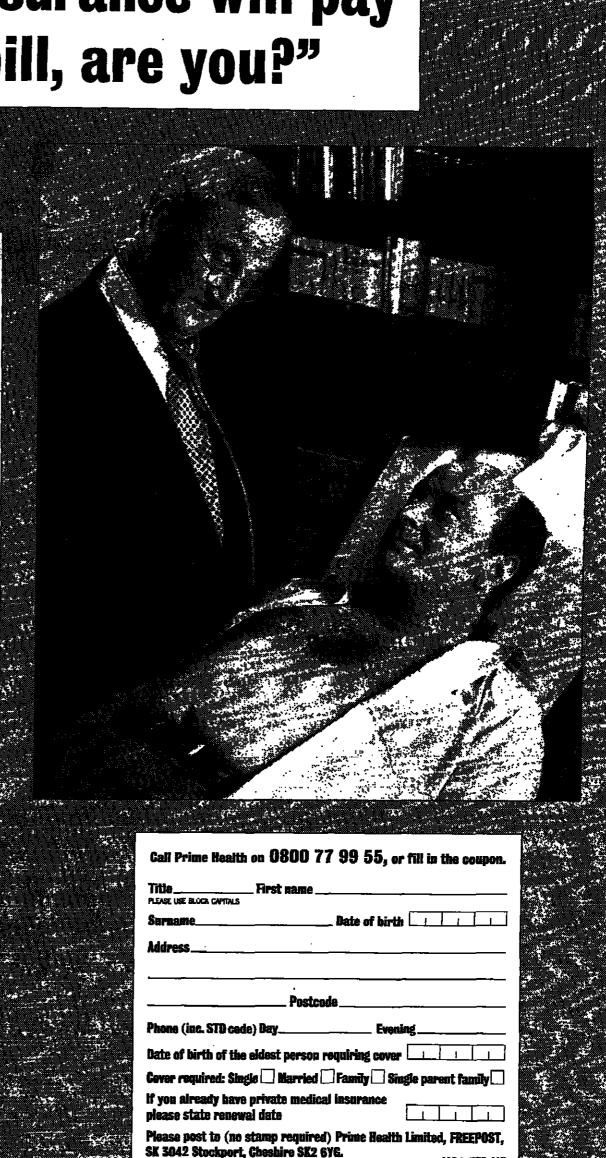
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statements aimed to keep various

Unionist and nationalist groups

on board. It is often a recipe for

misunderstanding and recrimina-

tion along the way, as has amply

been seen this year, with, first, the

SDLP, then the Ulster Unionists,

and now again the SDLP, feeling

culation is that, having set a firm

date for the start of all-party talks,

the main constitutional parties

will go along with the compro-

mises inevitably involved. Minis-

ters have taken a calculated, and

probably correct, gamble that the

SDLP will put to one side its

The British Government's cal-

creation of the forum. Relations between the Govern-ment and the SDLP are publicly strained at present. It is not just the long-standing tensions between John Major and John Hume. Yesterday Mr Hume did not intervene but sat looking very unhappy. He left Seamus Mallon, his deputy, to press the SDLP's

protest in unusually strong terms.

This was striking because Mr

HODEL

ORPOLITICS

resentment at the Government's

behaviour and its objections to the

Mallon and Mr Major have had Ireland and the Irish Republic on reasonable working relations.

It is highly unlikely that the SDLP, or Sinn Fein for that matter, will boycott the elections. But their attitude, and that of the Irish Government, will depend on the issues left unresolved vesterday, in particular, the SDLP wants no watering of the pro-posed ground rules for substantive all-party negotiations. covering structure, format and agenda, which were issued at the end of last week and annoyed the

Ulster Unionists.

the same day about the repudiation of violence and support for the peace process. There is no agreement on such referendums and the Government paper said it "remains to be convinced that a clear case exists for a referendum in advance of negotiations, in addition to the elective process". Mr Major said in the Commons that a referendum was unlikely rather than likely, even though it

had not been formally ruled out. The fuss over the apparently complicated form of the elections The SDLP has also pressed the is largely froth. The system is a case for referendums in Northern certainly a hybrid, but its purpose

is simple, to ensure that all parties should be represented in the forum. Several representatives from the main parties should be elected under the main method. under which electors cast a single vote for the party of their choice in each of 18 constitueuncies. Representatives from party lists will be allocated in proportion to a party's vote in each of the five member constituencies. In addition, the votes cast for each party will be aggregated across Northern Ireland and the ten most successful parties will in addition, each secure two elected representatives.

This is designed to ensure the

Ulster parties are likely to keep their frustration in check election of representatives from smaller groups, mainly the fringe unionist parties with links to the lovalist paramilitaries, who would not otherwise be returned.

None of the electoral detail really matters apart from this last noint. Whether you describe it as a necessary compromise, as Mr Major did or the best dog's breakfast available as Paddy Ashdown did. is a matter of taste One of the main parties is probably bound to feel frustrated though none is likely to risk upsetting the process at this stage.

PETER RIDDELL

Rifkind's sceptical tone too mild for Tory hardliners

By Nicholas Wood and Alice Thomson

RESTIVE Tory Euro-sceptics ment's bows yesterday, demanding a tougher approach towards the next round of negotaitions on the future of

matters about Northern

Ireland politics is that all-

party talks will start on Monday. June 10, and that Sinn Fein will

only be allowed to participate if

the IRA restores its ceasefire.

Everything else is secondary. Yes-

terday's statement by the Prime

Minister on the method of elec-

tions to be held on May 30 is a

But then most politics in North-

ern Ireland is about procedure

rather than substance - means

rather than ends. The parties

jostle for position and the British

and Irish Governments make

further manoeuvre to this end.

Malcolm Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, was given a rough ride by many of his own his White Paper setting out the Government's position on the intergovernmental conference starting in Turin next week.

With the sceptics packing the Government benches, Mr Rifkind faced calls to flout the rulings of the European Court in-built federalist ratchet in the European Union. Sir Teddy Taylor warned him that the court was intent

on nullifing Britain's social chapter opt-out, prompting Mr Rifkind to concede that if the vital interests of nation states were ignored, the EU would become "unworkable". Although Mr Rifkind coun-

tered his critics by promising to work for reform of the court from the inside to safeguard the national veto and to resist greater powers for Brussels, it was clear that his mildly sceptical tone failed to reassure many Tory hard-liners. Later, more fundamental

Bonn in bank rift on monetary union

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

A SERIOUS rift on European monetary union has opened up between the German Government and Hans Tietmeyer, the outspoken governor of the Bundesbank.

Dr Tietmeyer described monetary union as "not absolutely necessary in the economic sense", contradicting Helmat Kohl, the Chancellor, who has been talking of "catastrophic consequences" of delaying Ecosomic and Monetary Union

Until now the Bundesbank and the German Government appeared to have been in pursuit of the same goal: the strictest possible entry criteria for monetary union and guarantees of fiscal discipline after the start-up date in

1999. But the tone has

changed over the past few

Herr Kohl is now deploying economic arguments in favour of monetary union. At day he said that delaying the start of EMU would lead to a slide of funds into the deutschemark, thus destroying the export industry and causing the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs.

However Dr Tietmeyer, addressing a European policy seminar in Stromberg, said that no one should be under any illusion that EMU would create jobs. If anything, unemployment could deteriorate seriously if monetary union were not properly constructed.

differences emerged with the former Chancellor Norman Lamont suggesting that Britain might have to review its membership of the EU. Other leading Tories warned the Government that the time had come to stand up to Franco-German plans for a federal

Mr Lamont also backed a referendum going wider than a single currency and covering political integration in Europe. The danger was of "civil unrest" unless the slide to a European superstate was stopped.

The message from the sceptics, who had been holding private meetings to plot their tactics for the debate, was that the Government faces more trouble over Europe unless it makes further moves in their direction. But ministers were safe last night after dodging a proper vote on their

Mr Rifkind played down the significance of the IGC, which is unlikely to be completed expected for the spring of next year. "The next IGC, unlike the 1985 one or Maastricht, has not been convened to negotiate a big idea." he said. The aim was the more modest one of improving the effective-ness of the EU's machinery before tackling bigger questions such as a single currency, enlargement and Europe's global competitiveness.

Britain's vision of the EU was a "partnership of nation states freely co-operating together in pursuit of their overall collective interests, using the institutions of the EU only where that is clearly necessary". He promised a detailed

paper on the European Court of Justice setting out British proposals to improve the functioning of the court and to change EU law. This had proved to be an "ass" over fishing rights and the working

But Mr Lanont challenged foundations of Mr Rifkind's argument, saying that although his White Paper struck the right note it failed the test of halting the federalist ambitions of other member states. "The White Paper takes a minimalist approach: if we do not press hard for Britain's agenda, others might not try to impose an integrationist agenda on us. We must guard against wishful thinking.

will push for the next great leap forward."

Europe was amassing powers that would soon give it the characteristics of a state. At that point, Britain would have ceased to be a self-governing country.

"We are creating by stealth, a monster machine, remote, insensitive and pushing out a mass of unwanted, often ludicrous paper . . .

"Britain is heading for a truth is, like so much else in the White Paper, the negotiatdifferent views of Europe. If cannot be reconciled, then the time will surely come when Britain has to consider much more radical

Robin Cook, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, teased Mr

notably over the European Court, only some of which was the work of Mr Rifkind, "a repressed supporter of the EU". The absence of discussion on a single currency was

Rifkind over the Tories' inter-

nal divisions while striking a

modestly sceptical note him-

self. The White Paper was

riddled with contradictions.

Mr Cook declared: "The up by any calculation of the interests of the 56 million people of Britain, but by very fine calculation of what is necessary to fit the prejudices of a few dozen Tory MPs.

Hybrid poll will be something of an Irish stew

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE formula for the elections to the Northern Ireland peace forum on May 30 is one of the most complicated ever devised and will be fiendishly difficult to organise.

The voters, however, will have a relatively simple task. They will be presented with a ballot paper that has a list of parties but no names of any candidates. In alphabetical order down the left of the paper will be the parties standing in that seat. People will simply vote for the party of their choice. When all the votes are added up, five seats in each of the 18 constituencies will be allocated according to the proportion of votes for

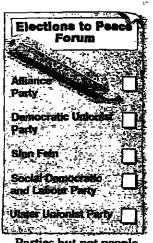
The final details of how the votes will be distributed have yet to be finalised and will only be settled when the legislation comes before the Commons. The most straightforward method would be to round up and round down to the nearest 20 per cent. For example, if the Ulster

Unionists won 60 per cent in Belfast South, the SDLP 19 per cent, and the Democratic Unionists 18 per cent, the Ulster Unionists would get three seats, the SDLP one and the Democratic Unionists one. However, this being Northern Ireland, it may not be as smooth as that. Ministers are looking at the possiblity that parties unable to reach a 20 per cent threshold in any seat may still qualify if they get, for example, 14 or 15 per cent. In any case the winners

would be taken in order from the top of the lists published by each of the parties in advance The parties' more highly valued candidates will be at the top of the lists in their most promising seats.

This part of the election will produce 90 elected members. The second part, designed to produce a further 20 members, is straightforward and its outcome is wholly predictable. The votes cast across the province in all the constituencies will be aggregated. The idea is purely to determine the ten most successful parties. Each will then get two elected members, again from party lists published in advance. The aim is purely to ensure that some of the fringe loyalist

parties that might not be successful in the wider election at least get on the forum.



View

Mr. . . . March

lic . -

Parties but not people go on the ballot paper YESTERDAY in the Commons: questions to Northern freland ministers and the Prime Minister, debate on the European inter-generated conference; backbench debate on lottery beneficiaries in west Suffolk. Criminal Legal Aid (Scotland) (Pre Proceedings) Amendment Redu

Blair wary of by-election setback

By James Landale, political reporter

TONY BLAIR admitted yesterday that losing the Staffordshire South East by-election would be a severe setback.

Mr Blair, making his first visit to the Midlands constituency in the run-up to the April If poll, said it was "extremely important" for Labour to do well. He added: "Things are looking very good. We have had tremendous support from Conservatives from all backgrounds coming over to the Labour Party."

Mr Blair's remarks reflect the tone of Labour's campaign as activists, desperate not to appear overconfident, emphasise that victory is not inevitable. Brian Jenkins, the Labour candidate, said: "This is Tory heartland. It has been a Tory seat forever and I have never said it would be easy."

The Tories are surprisingly

won a by-election since 1989. and know that Labour has its work cut out to overturn the 7,192 majority held by Sir David Lightbown, who died last year. Mr Jenkins, 53, the local

council leader, yesterday took Mr Blair to meet a handful of recent converts. At the Highwayman Inn near Tamworth, Mr Blair asked whether they might change their minds under the onslaught of a vigorous Tory campaign.
The Conservatives will run

a very big campaign against the Labour Party," he said. "They will try and terrify people about Labour and all the terrible things we are going to do. How are you going to react to that?"
Bill Jones, 54, a partner in a

local public relations firm, said it would be a test of upbeat, despite not having nerves. "It will take a long



time for people to be absolutely convinced," he said. "Round here people are Conservative with a small 'c'. They take a lot of convincing,"

Mr Blair's chat with six voters in front of the press had a slightly artificial air to it, as if each of the converts had rehearsed. Mr Jones was concerned about small businesses

and welcomed Labour's plans to give firms a legal right to interest on late payments. Susan Lees, 38, a mature

Whatever we say, or do, others

law student and single parent, said the Government was out of touch. They have had their time and now they are living on borrowed time."

Raymond Waspe, 56, a local businessman, said he had voted Tory for 30 years but was now disillusioned. "I believe this Government has totally lost its way. They lack any new ideas."

A beaming Mr Blair welcomed their views but warned them that Labour could not wave a magic wand and solve all the country's ills.

Later, in Tamworth, Jimmy James, 44, the Tory candidate, welcomed Mr Blair's visit but added: "He won't have answered questions for local businessmen on the minimum wage, social chapter and trade union influence."

Rebellion danger subsides

MINISTERS appear to have headed off a damaging Tory rebellion on divorce reform. Tory MPs were threaten-

ing to revolt over government plans to remove from the Family Law Bill an amendment providing for pension rights to be shared between divorced couples. Now the Government is expected to promise a separate Bill on pension splitting in the autumn in return for the rebels' agreement on removing the amendment.

The amendment was inserted in the Bill after a govern-ment defeat in the Lords. Roger Freeman, the Public Services Minister is expected to announce the new move when he opens the Second Reading of the Bill in the Commons on Monday.

Labour considers restoring free eye tests for elderly

in the Lords: Northern Ireland (Emer-gancy Provisions) Bill, second reading; Deer (Amendment) (Scatland) Bill, report;

By JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

LABOUR is considering making a commitment to bring back free eye tests for nine million pensioners.

The proposal, which would cost about £20 million a year to implement, follows growing concern that serious eye diseases such as glaucoma are being missed because the elderly are not having regular eye tests. But it falls far short of Labour's commitment at the 1992 election to reinstate free eye tests and dental checks for everyone, which were abol-

ished in 1989. Labour's aim would be to bring eye tests more in line with prescription charges, from which the over-65s are exempt, Party sources say that there is little logic in allowing pensioners free prescriptions but forcing them to spend E13 to £14 on eye tests. They argue that restoring free eye tests for the elderly would be a votewinner yet pledge the party to

mimimal extra spending. Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has told his colleagues that he will not sanction any spending commitments unless they are paid for by savings elsewhere. It is also by savings eisewhere. It is also unlikely that Labour will match the Tories' pledge to increase NHS spending in real terms every year.

Members of Labour's health team point to the £110 million that will be saved by ending tax relief from private health insurance for the elderly. They also argue that money

could be found from efficiency savings in management and

administration. Labour has no plans to restore free dental checks or to restore free eye tests for everyone. At present 40 per cent of the population are exempt from eye test charges including the under-16s, those on income support and family credit and glaucoma sufferers.

Labour's health team is now having discussions with the medical profession and the Association of Optometrists, over precise details of the plan. The optometrists argue that the cost of restoring free eyesight tests for the elderly would be more than offset by long-term savings in treat-

This is neither the time nor the place to ouva PEP.

Exercises raise spectre of humiliation for China, say expelled Communist activists

'Black Hands' of Tiananmen study poll preparations

TWO men condemned Peking as "Black Hands" behind the Tiananmen Square uprising were in Taipei yesterday watching Taiwan prepare for tomorrow's presidential

Liu Binyan, 71, and Su Shaozhi, 65, were long-time party members who were expelled for advocating democratic reforms which threatened party rule. They are in Taipei with a group of demo-cratic activists which includes Chai Ling, the commander in chief" during the six weeks of demonstrations in the spring of 1989, and Li Lu. her deputy commander. Everyone in the delegation lives abroad.

Mr Liu was for 30 years China's most famous investigative journalist, whose readers looked to him for exposes of official corruption and injustice. He was twice ejected

DISSIDENTS

from the party and spent many years in detention until he left China in 1987. He is regarded by the party as the single most important

influence on the rebellious students because of his years of inner-party democratic ac-tivism. Now based near Princeton University in New Jersey, his courage despite persecution accounts for his continued inspiration to Chinese democrats.

"What Peking fears here is independence," Mr Liu said, "If Taiwan became a real country it would be an obvious, concrete loss by the party, something they couldn't hide or explain away."

Most Chinese know nothing about what happens in Taiwan, and they were so brain-



A Taiwanese soldier mans a 50mm machinegun on an American-made tank near Taipei yesterday

Carrot and stick tactics fail to frighten voters

7. . 1 : Feasa

WITH Taiwanese frantically campaigning for presidential elections and blithely ignoring Peking's threats, the mainland must reassess its information-gathering on the island, the Foreign Minister of Taiwan said vesterday.

Fredrick Chien said that the clamour for democracy and vigorous media coverage of a rapidly changing society had led Communist Party leaders to make "a big. big mistake" in their assessment of the effect of their attempts at intimidation. They had resorted to carrot and stick tactics.

Yesterday the carrot was again in evidence when Peking let it be known that it would accept anyone the TaiELECTIONS

wanese chose as their presieliminate the possibility of repairing the damage," Mr Chien said. "They are tightening the poose and then loosen ing it again." He added that Peking would not accept the new president as a head of state: "They think that this is a local election."

It appears that the Chinese strategy of either frightening the Government into cancelling the elections or depressing the percentage of the vote for President Lee Teng-hui has backfired.

The indications are that it will boost the level of support for Taiwan's first native-born

washed for years that names like Chiang Kai-shek and Kuomintang still make them anxious. There is also a kind of ignorant superficial nationalism in China, which has nothing to do with making the country better. Its believers insist that Taiwan, like Tibet,

Mr Liu favours an eventual link between Taiwan and the mainland. "People here have an island mentality - rather narrow. They would benefit from some sort of relationship with China, but with a democratic one. That might be 20 to 40 years away. Unification of strengthen the regime."

must not be torn from China.

Su Shaozhi, once a leading party intellectual, was, until his dismissal in 1987, the director of the State Council's Marxism-Leninism-Mao Tsetung Thought Institute, the party's top think-tank. The party expelled him for pressparty expelled nim for pressing for ideological reform in
the direction of Western-style
democracy. He escaped, and
now lives near Mr Liu.
"I just telephoned a friend in
Peking." he said yesterday,
"and asked him what the

party really feared in Taiwan. He said it was Mr De." Mr De was the code word for Democracy used in 1919 by university students demanding that to save itself from imperialism, China needed democracy.

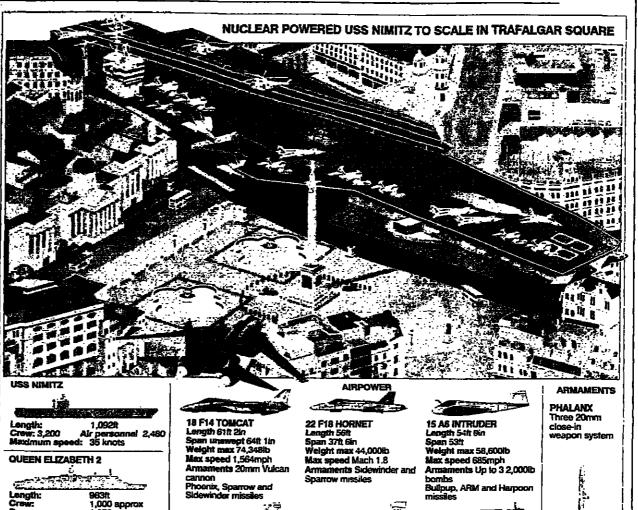
"These military exercises are intended to horrify Taiwan." Mr Su said. "It's what collapsing totalitarian governments tend to do ... At first, the party got a lot of support for this action near Taiwan because many Chinese, including democrats in the exile community, believe in reunification more than they believe in democracy."

According to Mr Su, the leaders made two mistakes.

Taiwan has not surrendered and the US came to help. They never expected [President] Clinton to do something so decisive. So they have a prob-lem now: a rebellious province with an army."

Mr Su thinks that Peking's failure to intimidate Taiwan has already had serious effects for the regime. "They have lost the hearts of the people of Taiwan; I have friends in Taiwan who were in favour of some sort of reunification. Not any more. And just as in Tiananmen, they have isolated China again, alienating their friends in the West and causing fear of Chinese hegemony all over East and South-

Letters, page 19



5 EA6B PROWLER

Span 53ft Weight max 65,000fb

Max speed 651mph

A floating piece of America on the front line

LARGE UK BASED FERRY

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

THE USS Nimitz, which is expected to arrive near the Taiwan Strait today, is part of the premier fleet of American aircraft carriers which act as central hubs for the forward presence of the United

States Navy.

Deployed for the first time in May, 1975, she is one of seven carriers in the Nimitz class, which are powered by two nuclear

NIMITZ

reactors and four geared steam turbines. With a beam of 252ft, they are the largest vessels in the American fleet, capable of supporting and operating as many as 85 aircraft against airborne, floating or snore targets.

Supporting a ship's company of 3,200 and an air wing of as many as 2,480. Nimitz can carry a full load of up to 97,000 tons. In effect, she is a floating piece of America and has numerous facilities, including a chapel, butcher, barber, hospital, fire station, chilled drinking water plant, bars, games rooms, and a television at every corner.

Capable of spending 90 days at sea, the vessel can distil 100,000 gallons of fresh water a day and provides for the needs of everyone, from the lowest rating to the commander. The question of nuclear weapons being aboard is one the Pentagon is quick to avoid.

Peking condemns US weapons deal

6 SH 60 SEAHAWK

Length Rotor and tail pylon folded 40tt 11in Weight max 21,884lb

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

CHINA yesterday attacked new American arms sales to Taiwan and denounced a resolution by the US Congress to help to defend the Nationalists. The condemnation came as Peking continued its military exercises just two days before Taiwan's first direct presidential elections The latest broadside by Shen Guofang,

S EA6 INTRUDER

Max speed 685mph Armanents 3 2,000tb bombs Bullpup, ARM and Harpoon missiles

the Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman. came after Washington said it had approved the sale of arms, including Stinger anti-aircraft missiles. A Taiwan request for diesel-powered submarines was turned down. Mr Shen criticised the House of

Representatives, which this week passed a non-binding resolution calling for America to defend Taiwan if China an attack expected to support a similar resolution. Mr Shen described the resolution as "detestable"" and said it was an attempt to obstruct the reunification of China and

He noted that American arms sales to Taiwan had intensified tension in the region and had complicated the situation. Mr Shen said the US bore "unshakeable responsibility for exacerbating tension". He claimed that Washington was

always "scolding" those who engaged in weapons proliferation so it was very irresponsible of the United States to "sell advanced weapons to a sensitive area at a sensitive time".

ARMS SALES

SEA SPARROW

SEA SPARHOW Mk29 eight-ceil launchers Range: 14.6km Speed: Mach 2.5 Warhead: 39kg continuous rod

Yesterday the USS Nimitz aircraft carrier was steaming into the South China Sea towards waters off Taiwan. It forms part of an American naval task force, the largest Washington has assembled in the region since the Vietnam War, in response to China's show of muscle in the Taiwan Strait.

Despite Mr Shen's words, there are signs that the United States and China mean to keep high-level contacts alive in various areas. There are plans for Chi Haotian, the

Defence Minister, who has recently revived the slogan of the need to "liberate" Taiwan, to visit America next month, and ter, is due to confer with Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, in The Hague on April 21. ☐ Tainei: A 41.266-tonne container ship

rammed into a naval supply ship at Hsinpin Pier in south Taiwan's Kaohsiung Harbour yesterday, almost slicing it in half. No one was injured in the

Military supply ships have been criss crossing Kaohsiung harbour since China started its war games in the Taiwan Strait. Harbour officials said the supply ships were loading food and weapons destined for Taiwanese islands close to the coast of China. (AFP)

Satellite launch boosts Indian defence

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

INDIA yesterday successfully carried out the final developmental launch of its homemade PSLV rocket, carrying a satellite into orbit and placing South Asia's superpower in the top league of nations engaged in advanced space echnology.

It was a milestone for India, marking the end of the 4,150 million rupee (£78 million) development programme of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle and clearing the way for research into a new generation of rockets. It puts India in a position to compete in the lucrative business of launching satellites for other countries.

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Scientists from the Indian Space Research Organisation cheered as the 280-tonne launch vehicle blasted off flawlessly from the Sriharikota range on the east coast north of Madras. India has already launched nine satellites and is planning to launch another eight in the next four

Such advances make neighbouring Pakistan nervous and are fuelling fears of an arms race between the two nuclear

The decision by the United States to go ahead with the sale to Pakistan, approved last year, of \$368 million (£24) million) of arms sales, including aircraft and missiles, will intensify these fears. There had been speculation that the transfer would be postponed after reports that China had sold nuclear technology to Islamabad, violating American non-proliferation laws. India lobbied in Washington against the sales.

India's armed forces are seeking substantially in-creased defence expenditure to modernise and develop indigenous capability. Nearly two months ago India test-fired a long-range version of its Prithvi surface-to-surface missile, which is capable of carrying nuclear warheads. The Defence Ministry last year embarked on a ten-year plan to reduce dependence on foreign suppliers.

The Government recently \$300 million Indian-built battle tank to replace Russianmade T72s. It will go into production next year. India has also produced a prototype of a light combat aircraft. which will eventually replace Russian-built MiG2ls.

The new American arms deliveries to Pakistan may represent a diplomatic and psychological victory for Is-lamabad, but they leave the Islamic state overwhelmingly outclassed by its neighbour in conventional defence strength

Why Mrs Mandela must be tolerated

FROM R.W. JOHNSON IN JOHANNESBURG

AFTER the wounding Mandela divorce, the real question is what happens to Winnie Mandela now? The case has severely damaged whatever hopes she may have had of President inheriting Mandela's political mantle. The revelation of the terrible Calvary that Mrs Mandela inflicted upon her husband,

the African National Congress's chief icon, is not softened by her inability to contest the allegations against her or by her husband's danning judgment that while she suffered under apartheid, "many other women suffered far more". Until now, this has been her alibi for everything. Equally. Mrs Mandela's

last-minute attempt to turn the case into a crusade for women's rights sits ill with her financial dependence upon her husband, not to mention

her conviction for kidnapping. Mrs Mandela's financial prospects also appear dim. It emerges that she has had something like £500,000 from her husband since 1990 virtually all of it the fruit of donations from well-wishers but also that she is going through money as fast as deposed royals in Britain.

She derives a monthly income of £2,700 from investments but her expenditure is seven times that. Although Mr Mandela will doubtless make her a generous settlement, nobody expects it to be long before she has spent whatever he gives her.

As it is, only repeated interventions by her husband have got her off the hook on the numerous occasions when she has been hauled before the courts for baulking over debts. Future brushes with the law seem certain and she is less likely to be rescued.

Mrs Mandela is far from finished, however. She is a prominent member of the ANC's National Executive Committee and President of the ANC Women's League. She has used that position to embarrass the movement by taking up populist causes against the leadership and will doubtless now feel more

free to do so.

These positions give her sufficient political leverage for it to be very imprudent for ANC politicians to risk taking her on. Those who did so over the affair of the murdered Stompie Moeketsi have all suffered and Thabo Mbeki. the First Deputy President, for example, takes great care to stay on the right side of her.

Moreover, the ANC seems unwilling to disown her, not only because it is half afraid of her but because she is, finally, theirs and her name and dramatic figure still strike deep chords with those who remember her from the brave days of the struggle.



Mrs Mandela: still has support

'Mother of Nation' accused of running criminal gang

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN JOHANNESBURG

about her infidelity and spendthrift ways. Winnie Mandela's woes continue to pile up with her now accused of running a criminal syndicate.

During hearings at the Supreme Court in Pretoria, Dougie Holthausen, a retired policeman, told how Mrs Mandela was in charge of a gang of criminals who committed robberies on her orders. Giving evidence at the trial of Colonel Eugene de Kock, a former police commander who is facing 121 charges of murder and fraud. Mr Holthausen told how the President's former wife was to have accompanied four would-be robbers who were ambushed and killed by police in 1992. He said she withdrew from the trip at the last minute. Mr Holthausen named Tiisetso Leballo.

HUMILIATED by courtroom details Mrs Mandela's former driver, as a fifth member of the team who escaped the attack only to be killed later, allegedly on the orders of Colonel de Kock.

During the late 1980s Mrs Mandela, a convicted kidnapper still held in high regard by many South Africans as the "Mother of the Nation", surrounded herself with young thugs in the Mandela United Football Club. Jerry Richardson. the "coach", was sentenced to hang for the murder of Stompie Moeketsi, 14, who had earlier been taken to her home.

President Mandela said during divorce proceedings this week that he could expose more serious" dirty linen than the one act of adultery mentioned. Within hours two of her bodyguards appeared in a court on murder and attempted murder charges.

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WORLD

SUMMARY

Briton is

seized in

Somalia

New York: An unidentified Briton was among five United

Nations aid officials abducted

in Somalia over an alleged

dispute with a local driver

The Briton, an employee of

the UN Children's Fund, was

seized along with colleagues

from America, India, Sudan

and Nepal when they arrived

at Mogadishu airport on a

UN sources said the five

appeared to have been kid-

napped by a driver who had a

grievance against Unicel

because it had stopped renting

humanitarian mission.

(James Bone writes).

Hezbollah threat prompts alert on Lebanon border

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

A STATE of alert was declared vesterday in Jewish towns and settlements along the border with Lebanon as pro-Iranian guerrilla leaders threatened rocket attacks in retaliation for Israel's promised tough response to the killing of six Israeli soldiers this month.

Wednesday's renewal by Hezbollah of suicide bombing, which originated in response to Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon, has left the situation more tense than at any time since July 1993, when Israel's Operation Accountability killed 130 people and turned nearly 250,000 Lebanese civilians into refugees as they fled

Overshadowed by the re-cent spate of Islamic suicide bombings against civilian targets inside Israel and the resulting Sharm el Sheikh anti-terrorism summit, the war of attrition being fought against Israel under Syrian eyes in occupied southern Lebanon is threatening the Middle East peace process from a different, but equally dangerous, perspective.

In addition to the normal complications which have made Lebanon a quagmire for Israeli forces in the past, the latest crisis is all the more explosive because it comes just two months before an Israeli election in which security is the key issue, and while Washington is trying to bind the fragile 29-nation coalition formed at Sharm el Sheikh with a follow-up meeting in

the United States. Even before a 26-year-old bomber blew himself up on Wednesday after giving the passing Israeli convoy a provocative salute from the roadside, Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, was under heavy domestic pressure to defy American calls for reimage by ordering widescale retaliation.

The Prime Minister knows that Hezbollah are deliberately trying to provoke a heavyhanded reaction, but there comes a point in an election campaign where he has to

respect the views of his electorate." one Israeli official said. "It is not so much revenge that is being demanded as action to preserve the security of our soldiers in Lebanon."

While the world has grown bored with Lebanon, the last



Ali Qashmar, 20, the suicide bomber whose attack killed an Israeli officer this week

active Arab-Israeli warfront, every Israeli appears to have a relative or friend serving in-side the nine-mile deep buffer zone. Every time that Israel Radio begins playing sombre music and rumours of a new attack circulate, the anxiety

among the Jews is palpable. Mr Peres made clear yesterday that Israel would respond to the latest attacks at a time and a place of its own choosing. Binyamin ben-Eliezer, one of his leading campaign aides, was less guarded. "It straint and to improve his cannot be bang and we are

done. We must hit a bull'she said, without

An editorial in the rightwing Jerusalem Post demonstrated the intensity of pressure Mr Peres is facing from his main opponents, the right-wing Likud, to throw recent restraint to the wind.

"To talk about a political solution in Lebanon is fine. All wars end with a political solution. But to accommodate Syrian sensibilities and American daydreams and presidential elections by tying the hands of the Israeli Army is unacceptable," the paper argued.
"All Israelis hope that

Peres's vision of peace with the Arab world will materialise before 2000. But they do not relish having Israeli soldiers serve as sitting ducks until that time."

The Prime Minister, whose poll standing was badly damaged by the recent suicide bombings in Israel, said: "We will do everything required to relate to the situation as it exists in the field."

However, as the 1978 Opera-tion Litani demonstrated, and the 1982 invasion underlined at great human cost, a ground push deep into Lebanon or even as far as Beirut was not capable of ending terrorist attacks across Israel's northern border.

According to Israeli defence sources. current ideas range from attacking guerrilla head-quarters in Beirut to air raids against Iran, the main supplier of Hezbollah finance and

"We keep our right to retaliate," Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah, the Hezbollah chief, said at a Beirut news conference yesterday. "The only way not to touch their [Israeli] settlements is not touching our civilians and people."

The Portland Spring



A wine-keeper shows off a bottle of Georgian wine from Stalin's 450-bottle collection of rare European and local vintages, which was unearthed from a cellar in Tbilisi more than four decades after the Soviet dictator's death. Most Russians

Stalin's cellar opened

Yeltsin hardens Russian line on Nato

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

would probably shudder at the thought of unearthing the bidden remains of Stalin's cellar (Richard Beeston writes). However, the secret is not a grisly

legacy of his brutal rule, but a reminder that the tyrant

The collection will be put

on display in a museum in the Georgian capital. Its

lin both in his native Georgia, where many consider him a national hero, and in Russia, where resurgent Communists recently cele-brated his birthday and praised his achievements.

discovery could help the rapid rehabilitation of Sta-

leaves hospital Athens: Andreas Papandreou, 71. the former Greek Prime Minister who hovered near

his vehicle last year.

Papandreou

death for four months in hospital, defied all odds and returned home yesterday with his young wife Mimi beside him. Boisterous supporters swamped the car of the founder of the Pasok Socialist Party, cheering and throwing flowers. He waved feebly while holding on to life support tubes that will be hooked into machines home. (Reuter)

Green

CHISAGE

threaten

Aznar secures alliance deal

José Maria Aznar, Spain's Prime Minister-in-waiting, whose Popular Party (PP) won recent elections, but without a majority sufficient to form a Government, has ratified his first pact with prospective allies (Tunku Varadarajan writes). Convergence and Union, the Catalan nationalists, has agreed to the PP appointing the parliamentary Speakers in return for seats on important committees.

Bougainville truce ends

Port Moresby: Papua New Guinea ordered its troops back into battle against secessionists in Bougainville after ending a ceasefire in operation since September 1994. The Bougainville Revolutionary Army has waged a conflict in the mineral-rich island province for about seven years over sharing profits from a rich copper mine. (Reuter)

Paradise lost

Manila: Shangri-La, an international luxury hotel chain, is to fight a court ruling that gave a small restaurant near Manila exclusive rights to the fabled name because it regis-tered it first. (AP)

PRESIDENT YELTSIN yeswill be tougher than him in join the 16-nation alliance. peacekeeping troops to serve making our position clear," "We are working steadily toalongside Nato forces in Boswards it and we are not going said the President, who once nia-Herzegovina. However. issued a warning that Nato with less than three months to to change course." expansion would ignite "the go before presidential elec-Nato has been working flame of war across Europe. tions and with the Commuhard to assure the Russians Señor Solana would not say nists leading in the polls, Mr that they will not be excluded from a central role in shaping

terday warned Javier Solana, the visiting Nato Secretary-General, that Russia would take a tough line against the alliance for proposing to ex-tend membership to former Soviet bloc countries.

Mr Yeltsin told Señor Solana that Yevgeni Primakov, the newly appoint-ed Foreign Minister, had not been forceful enough in stating Russia's strong objections to Nato expansion.

talked to you too mildly so I

They say he [Primakov]

after the meeting how forceful the Russian leader had been, but said that the two sides had restated their opposing views on the subject. The enlargement of Nato

was a decision taken in 1994," he said, referring to the applications made by 12 East and Central European states to

European security and that the alliance's expansion into Eastern Europe does not represent a threat against Russian interests.

The Russians have signed up to Nato's Partnership for Peace programme and after some hesitation also sent Yeltsin must be seen to be taking a firm line with Nato. which is regarded with great suspicion by most Russians. Despite the West's solid support for Mr Yeltsin's re-

election campaign, Washing-ton and its allies have made clear that they are not willing

Neo-Nazi leads police to fifth victim's grave

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

HANDCUFFED and sur- after the shooting of a neorounded by a dozen police- Nazi defector. men, a 27-year-old neo-Nazi

One of the victims of Thomthe printing of his full name until the trial begins - was a 23-year-old woman who was stabbed 91 times for wearing a "Nazis Out" badge. The Essen prosecutor confirmed that the man had confessed to five killings. He was arrested

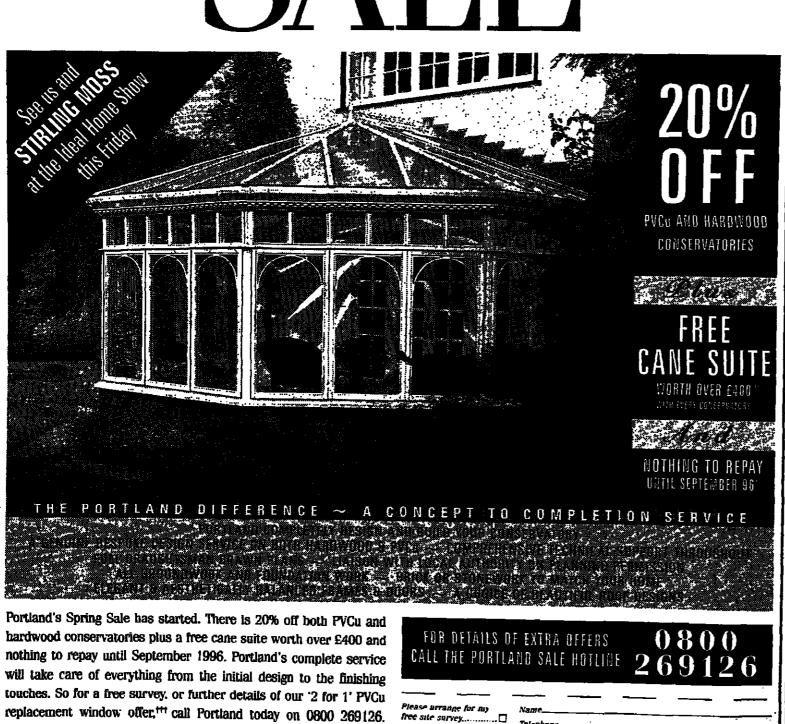
In Thomas L's flat police serial killer yesterday led the found a fully-armed rocket

tion and the automatic rifle used to kill the defector.

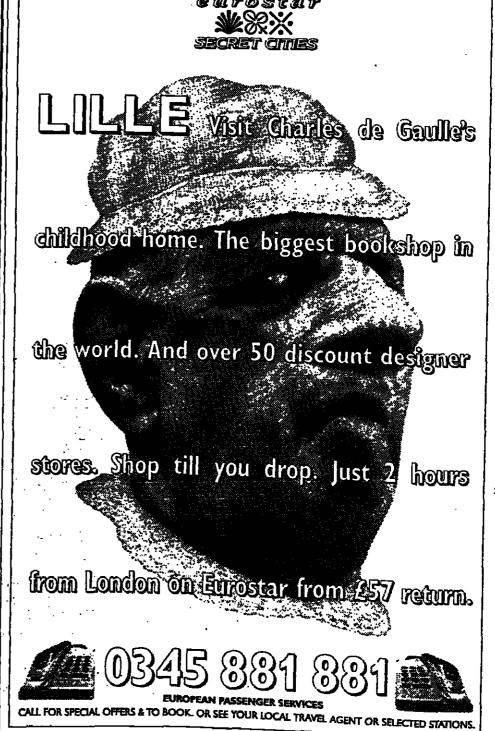
was carrying out orders transmitted by Odin, the Germanic god of war.

☐ Four held: Four far-Right extremists were arrested yes-

terday in Magdeburg on suspicion of shooting a Sudanese man in the face.



PORTLAND Conservatories & Windows



FROM DAVID ADAMS

WHEN police arrived at the crime scene they had never seen carnage like it. Lifeless victims — 69 in all — lay strewn across the yards of two homes in Sweetwater, a

a Miami massacre with a difference - a case perhaps for Ace Ventura, Pet Detective. The victims were all ani-mals — goats, chickens, geese and ducks. The killer, say police, and a local zoologist. was a large dog. Wrong, say chupacabras, a vampire-like predator whose name means

For the past six months the hideous, bloodsucking beast with an oval head and bulging red eyes, part reptile, part insect, part UFO, has supposedly been terrorising the central mountains of Puerto Rico. After the slaughter in Sweetwater the chupacabras has established a place in Miami makebelieve.

It may sound like something out of The X Files but it has gripped more than just the imagination of Hispanic Miami. For those who believe in the chupacabras, the fear is real. In some cases the attack on livestock has caused serious economic loss.

police inquest. Chupacabras has aroused great discussion - some of it less than serious - on the

by a number of accounts from seemingly credible witnesses. At least 15 claim to have had a close encounter with the monsmelt like sulphur.

slayings, Mr Magill found that the bite marks were "classic cannine punctures from dogs". As for the vampire theory,

he said: "Contrary to the popular belief, all the animals were full of blood."

US needs missile defence system, say Republicans

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

ACCUSING President Clinton of neglecting America's security. Bob Dole and Newl Gingrich yesterday unveiled legislation to develop and deploy by 2003 a national defence against rogue states' ballistic missiles.

"Right now the United States has no defence, and I repeat no defence, against ballistic missiles, and if it's left up to the Clinton Administration it will stay that way." said Mr Dole, the Senate leader who will be Mr Clinton's opponent in November's presidential election.

Mr Clinton "would rather give the money away on foreign aid than use the money to defend America and that's a very big difference in our two views. Mr Gingrich, the House Speaker, said.

The two Republicans were Green crusader threatens **President**

By MARTIN FLETCHER

BOB DOLE begins campaigning in California today, but there is another candidate in next Tuesday's Golden State primaries the White House fears more.

His name is Ralph Nader, a veteran crusader for consumer rights. Though Mr Nader will be nominated for President by California's tiny Green Party, this high-profile 62-year-old activist could siphon enough votes from Mr Clinton to make Mr Dole squeak home in the one state the President must win to

retain the Oval Office. Indeed Mr Nader represents such a serious potential threat to Mr Clinton's reelection hopes that Democratic heavyweights have been I privately begging him to reconsider, but to no avail. Mr Nader is as disgusted with Mr Clinton as he is with the

clearly seeking electoral advantage, but they were also addressing the real threat that certain renegade Third World nations may soon pose as they acquire weapons of mass de-struction and advanced missile technology.

In Fulton, Missouri, earlier this month Baroness Thatcher urged the West to develop anti-ballistic missile (ABM) defences, calling the spread of nuclear, biological and chemical weapons to countries like traq. Iran. Syria and Libya the single most awesome threat of modern times".

Ronald Reagan, the former President, first floated the idea of building an impenetrable space-based shield to protect America from nuclear attack in 1993 when he launched the Strategic Defence Initiative, or "star wars", programme.



Nader: could siphon votes from Clinton

Republicans. "I'm getting calls from members of Congress and all sorts of emissaries, but I'm in this campaign to stay," he insists.

California is so important to Mr Clinton that he has visited it 23 times since taking office, channelled huge sums of federal money its way, and appointed Californians to top administration jobs. Having irretrievably lost much of the South and West he cannot be re-elected without California's 54 electoral college votes — a fifth of the required total and has already begun advertising there.

More than \$30 billion (£19 billion) was spent on research over the following decade, but before a single new missile defence weapon was deployed the Soviet Union collapsed and the incoming Clinton Administration killed the

programme.
The new Administration began working instead on a more modest ground-based defence system. This has not been a priority partly because it does not consider the threat imminent, partly because of financial constraints, and partly because the deployment of such defences is banned by the 1972 ABM treaty with the former Soviet Union.

However, the Defend America Act that the two Republican leaders unveiled yesterday would mandate "the deploy-ment by the end of 2003 of a national missile defence system capable of providing a highly effective defence of US territory against limited. unauthorised or accidental ballistic missle attacks".

The legislation instructs the Defence Secretary to produce cost estimates and a plan for deploying the system within a year. The interceptor missiles could be ground-based, seabased or space-based, and space-based sensors known as "Brilliant Eyes" would detect incoming ballistic missiles.

The Bill urges the President to enter negotiations with Moscow to amend the ABM treaty to permit the deployment of such defences, but suggests the United States should abrogate the treaty if those negotiations had not succeeded within one year.

The ABM treaty was designed to deter nuclear attacks by upholding the principle of mutually assured destruction. but the Bill argues that "the United States and Russia should welcome the opportunity to reduce reliance on threats of nuclear retaliation as the sole basis of stability".

Mr Clinton would probably veto the Bill, but in doing so would expose himself to further Republican attacks on an issue, national defence, that has long been considered a Democratic weak point.

Kenichi Horie, a Japanese Warm beer cans sail west explorer, sets out from Sali-

Whittell writes). Equipped with a tiny fridge and 120 cans of beer (one for each day at sea). Mr Horie set off on the 10,000-mile voyage.
The 31st Maifs Mermaid has 130sq ft of solar cells. On a good day they generate 1.5 kilowatts of electricity, top-ping up two rechargeable nickel-hydrogen batteries. One battery drives the boat's motor, the other the fridge, a radio, the lighting and a

ا حكدا من الاصل

video recorder. Mr Horie crossed the western Pacific from Hawaii to Japan in 1985. He has also sailed twice round the world in more conventional craft and crossed the Pacific in the world's shortest ocean-going

Hostage freed by car crash

FROM REUTER IN HONG KONG

nas in Ecuador in his solar-

powered boat made out of 27,000 recycled aluminium

beer cans. He plans to sail to Japan in what he hopes will

be the world's first solar-

powered crossing of the Pacific Ocean (Giles

A TRAFFIC accident proved lucky for a Hong Kong kidnap victim - she was spotted in the boot of a stolen taxi after the locked lid opened in the impact of the collision.

The accident helped to save 35-year-old travel agent Yeung Chai-chi who had been ab-ducted by two kidnappers, the Apple Daily and other newspapers said yesterday.

The taxi came to a halt when it hit a container lorry. The lorry driver spotted a wriggling hand and then saw a woman in a pink dress with her head masked in tights, and her arms and legs bound with adhesive tape.

He reported it to police, who sent a helicopter team to chase the car and rescue her. Police detained one suspect.

Wary Clinton faces pressure to keep soldiers in Bosnia

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT CLINTON. having promised Republicans that he would withdraw American troops from Bosnia-Herzegovina by the end of the year, is facing increasing pressure from international officials to maintain a force in the Balkans after the deadline is

The Administration is now searching for a solution that will appease the factions on the ground and international negotiators while at the same time ensuring that Mr Clinton does not lose political capital to Congress before the presidential elections in November.

At the insistence of the United States, the Nato implementation force of 60,000 peacekeepers is scheduled to leave the region by the end of the year. The White House insisted yesterday that all 20.000 American soldiers would depart within nine months. Britain and France have said that once America leaves they will follow suit. However, Carl Bildt, the international civilian co-ordinator for the Dayton peace accord, has said it is critical that a peacekeeping force remain in Bosnia after the departure of Ifor, the multinational Nato

"Refugee return is a twoyear plan. Reconstruction will take much longer than one year," he said. "Almost everything depends on a feeling of overall security for which some kind of military presence will be required."

At the same time, a Pentagon intelligence report released this week said that the prospects for peace were dim and added that without economic aid and a political renaissance the country was likely to slide back into conflict as soon as Nato withdrew. Warren Christopher, the US Secretary of State, Malcolm

Rifkind, the Foreign Secretary, and other allied foreign ministers are expected to make a decision over Bosnia when they meet in Berlin in ☐ Envoy stoned: Rebel Serbs

shouted abuse at Madeleine Albright, the US Ambassador to the United Nations, and stoned her motorcade when she visited Vukovar which is being returned to Croatian rule after more than four years. Reporters said that Ms Albright cut short a walk round Vukovar's marketplace after she was mobbed by a crowd shouting "bitch" and "fascist". (Reuter)

'Vampire' chills the blood in Miami

Hispanic neighbourhood in south Miami. However, it was

'goat-sucker" in Spanish.

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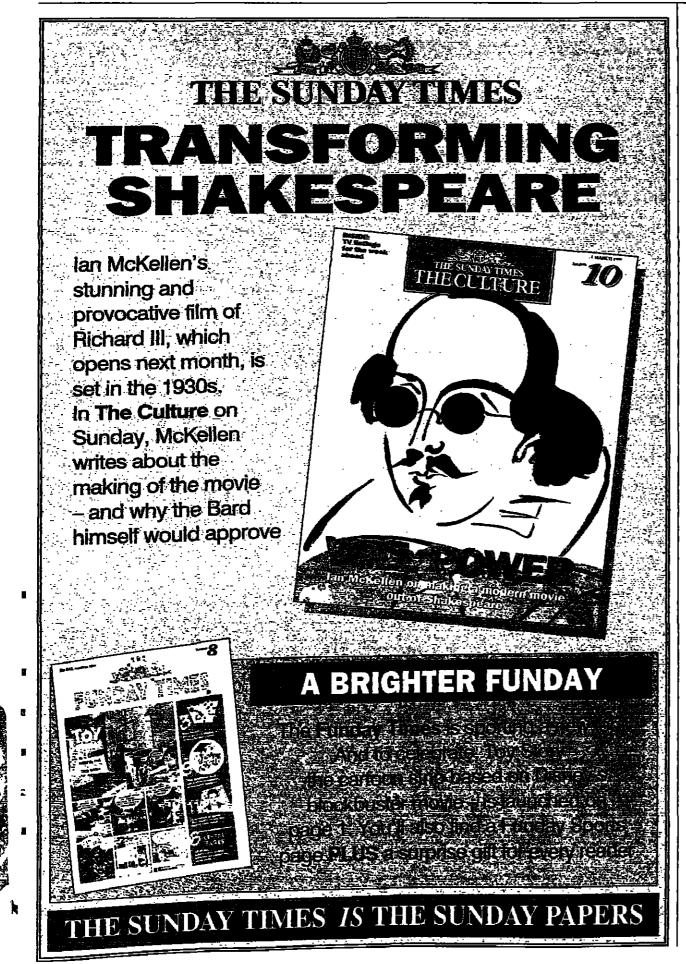
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Authorities are taking the

killings seriously, up to a point. A specialist has investigated the deaths, and a county commissioner has called for a

Internet, where it has its own home page. It has become big business with T-shirts and a chupacabras sandwich. The interest has been fuelled

ster, and one woman said that it iumped like a kangaroo and As for the Sweetwater



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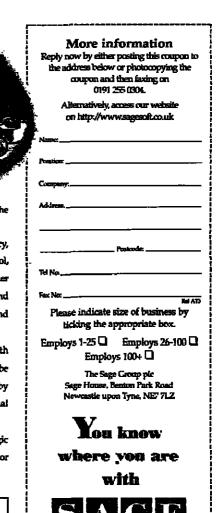
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Rosemary Righter reports on a rare exhibition of imperial Chinese masterpieces

freezing morning in New York --- so cold that every twig in Central Park has been coated with ice and sunlight turns the trees into a diamond forest. At the eastern edge of the park, the Metropolitan Museum is closed to the public, as it always is on a Monday. Inside, giant vases of forsythia fill the entrance hall with Chinese imperial yellow. Just beside them, somebody bends with needle and thread over a huge red banner appliqued with purple Chinese characters, stitching last-minute repairs before it is hoisted over the museum's façade. There is a palpable excitement, even among the press registering for the preview of one of the rarest, and most obstacle-strewn, exhibitions the museum has ever mounted: Splendours of Imperial China. The imperial Mandate of Heav-

en, in its millennial artistic manifestations, is about to descend on Manhattan. For the first time in 35 years, more than 450 of the imperial treasures from the National Palace Museum in Taiwan have been allowed to leave the island for a year-long tour of America. On view in New York are consummate masterpieces from a collection of more than 600,000 items, accumulated by Chinese emperors over a thousand years and spirited out of the Forbidden City in Peking in 1933 just ahead of the advancing Japanese Army. No finer Chinese art

survives anywhere.
The opening of any great exhibition at the Metropolitan is an event in the New York social calendar, a celebration of the huge power and energy of American private patronage of the arts, an occasion for jewels and the kind of evening dresses almost never seen off the catwalk on this side of the Atlantic. But not even a scarlet and gold cheongsam could long divert the eye from 8th-century calligraphy darting, as the monk whose brushwork it was, wrote. "like a flock of birds from trees"; or from Wu Chen's ethereal bamboo paintings. completed in 1350 as an instruction manual for his young son: or from the immemorial pallor of a celadon lotus bowl from the 12thcentury imperial kiln at Ju-chou, which lasted only 25 years but produced porcelain that has never been matched for purity of line and delicacy of glaze.

Years ago, in Taipei, I met the late Han Lih-wu, one of the three men who, in 1933, spirited 20,000 crates of paintings and calligra-phy, porcelain, jade, bronzes, lacquer, rare books and other objects through the great gates of the Forbidden City and across Tiananmen Square to the trains that would carry them to Shanghai. This was the first halt on their 7,500-mile, 16-year odyssey to the





Above: 15th-century portrait of the Yung-lo Emperor. Top right: jade chimera from the Han dynasty (206 BC to AD 220). Bottom right: Huai-su handscroll. dated 777

Forbidden treasures

remotest reaches of war-torn China and ultimately to a safe haven. But the decision to ship them out of harm's way was never forgiven by the Chinese Government, which branded Han a war criminal.

In near impossible conditions the crates were moved, and moved again, sometimes only minutes before Japanese bombs destroyed their resting places. Some were shipped westward up the Yangtze in barges to Chungking and Loshan, some hauled over the Chin Ling mountains into Szechuan. The latter journey took more than a year in blizzards and such torrential rain that roads were washed out and bridges destroyed, forcing the team to haul their irreplaceable cargo across rivers on makeshift rafts.

Even when the crates found a temporary refuge in remote temples or caves, fire and white ants were an added hazard.

Finally, in 1949, the crates left the Chinese mainland for Taiwan in the final panic of the rout of Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists by the Communists. Barely seaworthy vessels slipped out of the Yangtze under Communist guns and across mined sea-lanes. Yet when they unpacked the crates in Taipei, not a cup was broken.

It was one of the cultural miracles of this most destructive of centuries - a miracle given added significance by the subsequent destruction of much that remained in China. Even though Chou Enlai protected the leading museums during the Cultural Revolution. Red Guards made bonfires of provincial and private collections of paintings and forced the owners

them personally. The drama helps to explain why the trove's existence in Taiwan is so bitterly contested by Peking that the American Government had to give explicit guarantees that the

of priceless porcelains to smash

works of art now on loan would be immune to any legal challenge by China in American courts guarantees that Taiwan would probably trust no European government to honour.

It also helps to explain why, at the last minute, Taiwan's proud new democracy nearly wrecked the entire venture. Politicians in mid-campaign for the US presi-dential elections bowed to vehement protests by art lovers in Taiwan, depriving the Metropoli-tan—and the other galleries to which the exhibition will travel of 13 of the rarest, and most vulnerable, of the Northern Sung paintings in the collection. Nineteen more will now be shown in only one of the visited cities, and then only for short periods. The anxiety is understandable.

The monumental landscapes of the 11th-century Northern Sung paintings are so precious and so frail that under Taiwanese law they can be unrolled for view for only 40 days in every three years. But the gap created in the exhibition is out of all proportion to the number of items withheld, for the Northern Sung, in particular, was an early High Renaissance in Chinese aesthetics — a past and of intense creativity. The mountains painted by Fan Kuan have an unequalled imaginative sweep and timeless perception of natural space that his imitators and successors never wholly recaptured; the paintings of Kuo Hsi are a stupendous emotional engagement with turbulent natural forces that rebuts the familiar cliches about Chinese scholarly serenity.

Even if these paintings were present, however, the delight and interest of Splendours of Imperial China would not have depended on the comprehensiveness of its historical sweep. Nor could it: thanks to spectacular recent archaeological finds, the museums on the Chinese mainland are now vastly richer in bronzes, jade and ceramics from the neolithic period through to the Han dynasty (4500 BC to AD 220) - as visitors to this September's great exhibition on ancient China at the British Museum will discover.

It is, rather, a reflection of imperial taste inherited down centuries marked by tumultuous periodic upheavals, such as the catastrophic losses during the collapse of the Ming dynasty. It is also a cultural and aesthetic history seen largely through the eyes of one ruler, the 18th-century Ching Emperor. Chien Lung. through whose acquisitive energy most of the collection that survives entered the Imperial Palace.

t provides us with a fascinating insight into the scholarly worlds of Ming and Ching, and into the infusion, sometimes with bizarre effects, of Mongol and Tibetan tastes into the 'classical" Chinese canon.

It is, above all, a world impassioned — as the title of the magnificent 660-page catalogue by Wen Fong and James Watt suggests — by the art of "possessing the past". It is a double sense of possession, both through the art of collecting, and through the creative reinterpretation - and sometimes merely slavish imitation of ancient masters.

Nothing could be more different from our own sense of art and its meaning; nothing could be more seductive than this glimpse of treasures rescued from China's last great upheaval; and nothing. fortuitously, could be more dramatic than to see them at the moment when China is once again training its guns across the Tai-

 Splendours of Imperial China: Metropolitan Museum, New York, until May 19, and then on tour to Chicago, San Francisco and Washington DC. China: New Discoveries from the Early Dynasties, sponsored by The Times, will be at the British sance in Chinese aesthetics — a . Museum from September 13 to January ferment both of rediscovery of the 5, 1997.

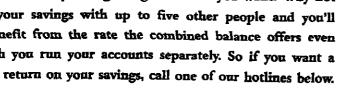
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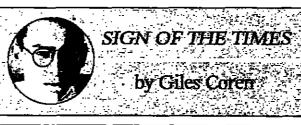
Why the lounge is non-U

hatting about stake-holding on Radio 4 the other day, Baroness Blackstone had me momentarily panic-stricken. "People will be talking about it in sitting rooms and dining rooms across the country." she said. Not me. I haven't got a sitting room. My home just has five rooms in it. None of them has a name.

What is a sitting room? Is it a drawing room? Is it a living room? Then what is the television room? Or the front room? Or the family room? Or the parlour? Or, indeed, the one always known as "the other room"?

Once upon a time, room naming was terribly impor-tant. It was frightfully non-U to have a lounge, for example. As bad as calling the loo the toilet. But with all the choices in the modern world, how are we to know where we might correctly discuss this stakeholding business?

If anyone should know, it is James Morgan, author of the forthcoming Debret's Eti-quette and Modern Manners. "In any home, the main non-eating day room should be called the drawing room," he says. "It suggests a certain formality, but is central to any pretence of civilised living. Originally known as the with-





drawing room, because one withdrew there after dinner, it remains the room where you entertain guests, and definitely not the place to eat a takeaway in front of the television. In a modern home, however small, it is crucial."

The sitting room, however, is a luxury available only to those who have a drawing room as well. "This," says Mr

Morgan, "is probably what Baroness Blackstone had in mind." It was once appended to the bedroom, and remains a more private place, having shaken off the intimacy of the boudoir. It is a more modestly furnished room, and here you might have the television or radio, or discuss stake-

"Living room", it seems, is

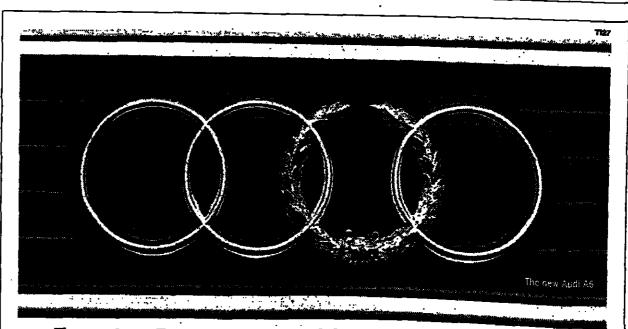
merely a generic term for noneating day rooms, into which these others fall. But according to Mr Morgan, "it is important to designate what each room is for". Thus family room is an acceptable alternative to sitting room, but lounge is not — "only airports have lounges" — and front room is equally NQOCD. The most common variant, of course, is the television (or occasionally telly) room. But statistics show that the average household has several televisions, so that doesn't narrow things down much.

Nain_-

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ot, of course, that the millennial world has need of such niceties, for modern man can now work out where to read a book or smoke a cigarette without having a room specially named after the activity. But perhaps this is what stakeholding is all about. If John Major's classless society has rendered irrelevant the social distinctions pointed up by the way people name their rooms. perhaps Tony Blair envisages something new an ideal nation, where everyone has a sitting room. For "sitting room", as we have seen, has one thing in common with stakeholding: it doesn't really mean anything.



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Lloyd George knew my mother

caught out in an affair, or having a love-child, she reflects on her own secret childhood. In the days when even the Prime Minister could keep his affairs private, she was born to Frances Stevenson, Lloyd George's secretary, mistress and eventual second

In her childhood photographs, Lloyd George smiles indulgently down at her. They walk along leafy lanes, feed the chickens and sit in the garden discussing the New

"I could never have remained a secret today," she says, laughing, there would be a lot more digging." Mrs Longford is a retired schoolteacher, still pretty at 66, and proud of her own eldest daughter Ruth, who next week publishes Frances, More Than a Mistress, the story her fascinating grandmother asked her to tell one day.

Before Frances died aged 84 in 1972, A.J.P. Taylor had edited her vividly observant diaries. But discretion still

Jennifer's existence had long been denied by her mother. Do you regret never having had children yourself? Fyfe Robertson asked Frances in a television interview in 1967, when she had written her autobiography. After a pause, she replied: "Lloyd George was my child."

"I felt obliterated. Quite blotted out," Jennifer says. Like many mistresses, the spirited Frances — at 23 —

justified her affair by regarding Mrs Lloyd George ("a lump of flesh, possessing, like the jellyfish, the power of irritating") as a neglectful wife who, at home with the children, failed to provide a soft shoulder for her husband to lean on. Frances would always provide that.

She twice had an abortion. "I would be proud to have his child, and would be willing to suffer for it," she wrote sadly in her 1915 diary, "rather than die childless." But by 1929 she was nearly 40, and desperate for motherhood. Since LG would never risk the disgrace of divorcing his wife, Frances and an affair with a colleague, Colonel Thomas Tweed, But that Christmas LG had flu and stayed with her in Surrey. In January. Frances joined Tweed in Torquay, but was

For years, Jennifer Longford had to conceal her identity as a Prime Minister's love-child. Now she has decided to tell her story

VALERIE

GROVE

INTERVIEW

pregnant by LG. She wrote to him: "It really has happened this time, my love, and I am so thrilled about it and hope that you will be too ... You can depend upon me to love and cherish you till death us do part. You are my husband, and my little child . . .

From babyhood, Jennifer called LG "Taid" (Welsh for "grandfather") and he was a constant presence in her life. But she was told to say, at school, that she had been adopted by Miss Stevenson after her missionary parents had been killed in China.

Jennifer was left with nanny while Frances went away with LG. Decades Jennifer still felt a sinking of the heart when she heard the first carols.

Every Christ-

"But I thoroughly enjoyed childhood and wasn't conscious of miss-

ing her, or thinking it odd. for making passes at any young girl who crossed his Her school was evacuated to

Chatsworth House, "I am still surprised when I see Henry VIII's rather fine legs in Holbein's portrait, since they covered the lower half of the pictures in case they were damaged by children running

t 11, she discovered a file marked "Jennifer's File" in her nursery. "It contained my school reports, a lock of my hair and a certificate of adoption'. My mother angrily said she would tell me who my parents were when I was 16. She said she was bound to secrecy. I was so used to not knowing, I didn't mind: but I was never really.

fooled by her stories. "After LG died in 1945, when I was 15, she told me a totally false story about having been married to Tweed and LG having insisted that the mar-

riage was never acknowl-edged, out of jealousy. She was saying I was, in fact, legitimate but very much a secret child. Somehow, deep down, I didn't believe it: Tweed showed no interest whatever in me and was married to someone else. It was only when I was 30 that I found my

when she married LG. 1 confronted her with it and she said: 'Well, yes.' "She certainly slept with both LG and Tweed in the month I was conceived, so it is

mother's marriage certificate

stating that she was a spinster

perfectly possible that she was

covering her tracks. Horrifying, isn't it, to think of anyone doing that, but this wonderful opportunity presented itself to make the whole thing uncertain right

beginning." Lloyd George, the old Weish goat, was notorious

path; Frances constantly had to soothe maids, farmhands etc. But Jennifer has fond memories of LG. "I always found him great fun: I remember him reading

me a story about the Moon falling into the sea and illustrating it by dropping an orange into a glass of water. He made a great fuss of me: treating me as an equal really, as someone whose opinion In 1938 Jennifer was taken to

the Strangers' Gallery of the Commons to hear him speak in the appeasement debate. In November 1940, he wrote to her at school (still hoping to join Churchill's War Cabinet): We have made blunder after blunder and are still blundering. I had experience in directing a great war and I helped to win the victory. I am unhappy at the way things are done today and I wish I could be in

a position to change the course

Jennifer was 14 when Frances married LG, to the fury of his family, becoming Countess Lloyd George, respeciable at last, His disagree-able daughter Megari subjected both Frances and Jennifer to ostracism. There was no atom of sympathy in Megan for my mother, even though she had herself been the mistress of a Labour MP. Philip Noel-Baker, for years."

But as a teenager she began to feel that LG was a constricting parent: "He wanted me still to be a small child. At his eightieth birthday, someone said they looked forward to his ninctieth — and my heart rather sank at the idea of growing up under this very restrictive person.

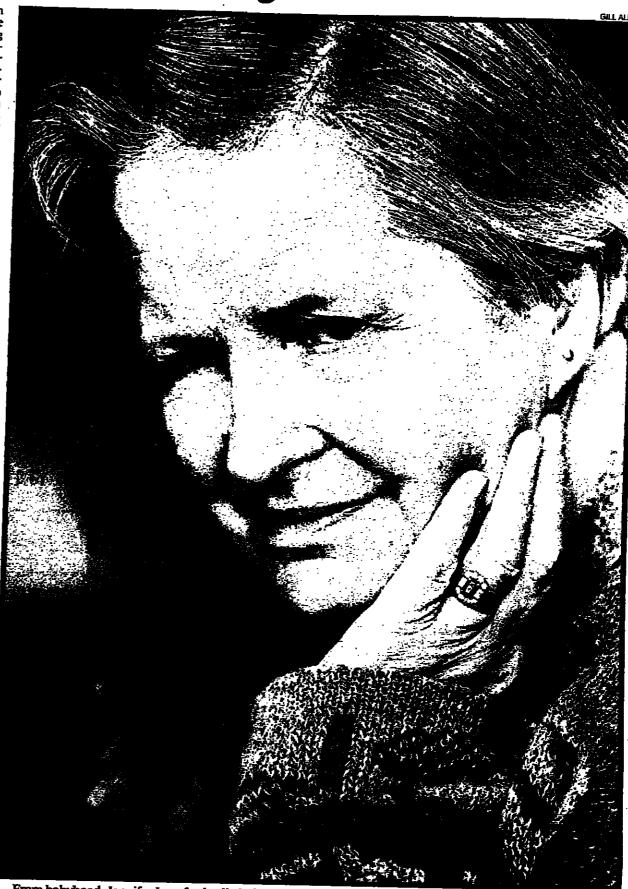
ennifer, growing up as spirited as Frances had been, escaped first to university; and then spent a year with a slum family unemployed father. part-time prostitute wife (whose bed Jennifer shared) and ragged children - publishing a book under the pseudonym Margaret Lassell that was acclaimed by Malcolm Muggeridge and others for its dispassionate observation of working-class life. "I wanted to find out how people lived who did not live in a nice Surrey village," she says.

She then went to teach in Tanganyika, where she instantly fell in love with the Governor's secretary, Michael Longford. "Infuriating really," she says. "I loved teaching, but within days we were en-

When they came home from East Africa with three children, she taught in a Surrey comprehensive specialising in giving pupils in the lowest stream the chance to get a CSE in childcare. Today, she and Michael teach English to foreign students who live with them at home in their cottage. A box of relics contains LG's

passport and her mother's official pass from Versailles in 1918. Not far away at Churt is Avaion, the lovely house Frances built and furnished for LG as a bolthole ("she always spent more than she had"), currently for sale at £750.000

"I know it can't be proved that I am LG's daughter therefore it is unimportant. People say that I look like him." She gives a blue-eyed bearn. "But then they are expecting that, aren't they."



From babyhood, Jennifer Longford called Lloyd Geor

Julia Llewellyn Smith profiles George Simpson, one of Britain's latest breed of investors' darlings

n the public imagination, George Simpson might not be the obvious candidate for corporate superstardom. An unassuming. soft-spoken accountant with an endearing grin and rosy cheeks, Mr Simpson, 53, comes across as everybody's favourite uncle, rather than a sharp-suited smoothie speeding up the hard shoulder to catch the last Concorde.

Yet this shrewd Scot, whose favourite phrase is "You've got to get your cock on the block, laddie", has been headhunted to succeed the legendary Lord Weinstock as chief executive of Britain's biggest manufacturer, the General Electric Company, in preference to several promising candidates (including Weinstock's son).

Not only is Simpson a rank outsider, his record is determinedly undazzling. "He may not be the most exciting manager in Britain, but he is like the Rock of Gibraltar," a former colleague has said.

After joining British Leyland as an accountant in 1969, he moved through a succession of increasingly large businesses, including Coventry Climax forklift trucks, Freight Rover vans and Leyland Trucks, before taking over at Rover, first as chief executive, then as chairman.





Simpson: down to earth

None of these sparkled under Simpson but in the longer term, say insiders, they have become thriving, innovative businesses thanks largely to his strategic thinking. "The stock market doesn't love Simpson because he doesn't make radical changes." says a motor industry analyst. "But investors admire him because gets slow but sure results."

he tackles weaknesses and He moved on to British Aerospace, and was then headhunted for the position of chief executive of Lucas, the

group, which has been ailing since the 1970s. "He underesti mated the task he took on at Lucas," says one industry observer. "Its share price has underperformed in comparison to the Footsie, but that is because his moves have been long-term, and will pay dividends in a decade's time."

Simpson's philosophy will appeal to Lord Weinstock, who has ruled GEC for more than three decades. But superficially the two men could not be more different. Weinstock. 71, is an aloof sophisticate, who loves music and racing. He is a trustee of the British Museum and has honorary degrees from ten universities.

🧻 impson is known as a man of the people. He and rugby, is an industrial professor at Warwick University, and is the president of the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders.

Analysts on a visit to a Lucas brakes plant in France were impressed by Simpson who staved up with them until 1.30am drinking and talking about the motor industry

uncharacteristic behaviour for a chief executive.

In common with many rising stars in the business firmament, Simpson, who has been married for 22 years and has two children, has boundless energy, a diffident manner that hides a ruthless edge

class background. The son of the manager of a Dundee flax mill, he attended the local grammar school and went on to the Dundee Institute of

"These are the boys who are winning through," says a

is a meritocracy. No one cares any more about the rough edges. Peter Bonfield at BT sounds really rough, he even drops his aitches. But he gets

GEC will pay Simpson around £568,000 a year, only a fraction more than his salary at Lucas. "But this isn't about money," says a former colleague. "He has taken on

THREE MORE WHO HAVE CLIMBED TO THE TOP



BROWNE chief group executive elect. BP. Aged 48, "small hut perfectly

and ruthless cost-cutter. Son of a British soldier and a Romanian interpreter. King's School, Ely; Cambridge (first in physics), Stanford Business School. With BP all his working life; has held a string of troubleshooting roles from Alaska to Aberdeen, excelled as head of exploration. Obsessed with BP, eschews small-talk. Unmarried, smokes cigars, loves opera, ballet, collects primitive Colombian



COCKBURN. chief exec-Smith since January after 35 years at the Post Office, where he rose to chief executive. Aged 53, short, chubby, Scot, staunch family man. Son of a

hospital porter, attributes managerial skills to being the oldest of eight children. Educated at the Holy Cross Academy in Edinburgh. Could not afford university. Has a bouncy no-nonsense charm that endears him to the rank and file but colleagues say that he can be a cost-cutting "human tank". His passions are rugby



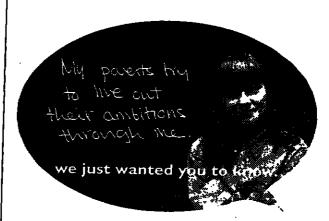
chief executive elect, Unilever UK. Educated at St Munchin's College, Limerick, and University College, Dublin. Chosen despite Persil Power, the new brand of detergent for which he had overall responsibility and

which was alleged to rot clothes. Colleagues praise his leadership, creativity and analytical skills. Known as a risk-taker who can turn around an underperforming investment. Asked for a motorcycle rather than a company car. Married, 50, three children. Crazy about jazz and football.



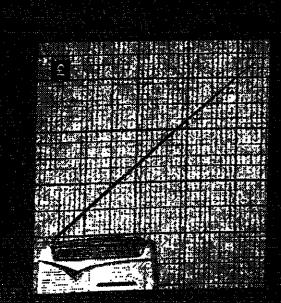
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■ There has never been a great book without a great title — discuss

Today, the burning edge of science is Comet Hyakutake. But comets are flibbertigibbets, here today and gone tomorrow. The place to see the future of science as opposed to the state of the art is not in today's night sky but in the theses being written by tomorrow's professors. And some of these are published in this week's Oxford University Gazette. The oral examinations for the degree of doctor of philosophy offer a minbow of special subjects to make us feel rainbow of special subjects to make us feel like Mr Hyakutake when his cornet swam into his Zen.

We look at S-stem nouns in Indo-European word formation and "hamstring contraction latency", at Francophilia and Francophobia in English society 1748-83 and the roles of vitamin A in embryonic lung development in mice, with a wild surmise, and have a wild regret that we shall never be so lost in scholarship as to understand them. We may feel like the man who was asked what he would take if he were to be marooned on a desert island and had the whole of Canadian literature to choose from. He answered. "Poison." But the man was wrong. He should have said Margaret Atwood and Robertson Davies for starters, and Robert Service for wilderness laughters. So we should be wrong to rule out the research projects of the Oxford scholars as over our heads and beyond our ken. For example, J. Wearing-Wilde of Wolfson College is being examined on "Reproductive biology of the bark-louse Lepinotus patruelis (psocoptera): implications for courtship theory. Even those who shudder at distinguishing a barklouse from the common-or-garden sort might learn how to deal with their daughters' undesirable suitors from its courtship theory. Is the bark-louse a slow courter, or fast, like the male rabbit who said to the female. "This is fun, wasn't it?"

No knowledge is entirely useless. But natural science is a wonderful source of research that sounds wacky. We used to run a column called "silly book titles of the year" at Christmas in *The Times*. But we dropped it because we left sorry for the indignant authors, unreviewed and then, to add insult to injury, mocked in public. But the Frankfurt Book Fair still runs a competition to find the book title that "most outrageously exceeds all bounds of credibility". It has been won by such titles guaranteed to introduce a rattling good yawn as Proceedings of the Second International Workshop on Nude Mice and The Joy of Chickens. And it is remarkable how many silly titles are about the other animals, from Poodle Groomers to Lappish Bear Grave Archaeologists.

In Frog Raising for Pleasure and Profit and other Bizarre Books, by Russell Ash and Brian Lake, the best section contains weird books on plants and animals in the wonderful world of nature. Harnessing Earthworms must be Thomas J. Barrett's guide to the breaking of bronco worms in the Wild West of the allotment And The Common Teasel as a Carnivorous Plant sounds like a video in urgent need of a V-chip or the kind of terrifying man-eating plant that swarms over the news pages in August.

Tor my desert island, I fancy Fish Who Answer the Telephone by Yury Petrovich Frolov. Do you think one could train them to bubble: "I'm sorry, he's in a meeting? And could such fish live in our coffee percolator? If I were marooned on a desert island, they could deal with any castaway messages in bottles that were washed up. I must also have The Art of Faking Exhibition Poultry by George Riley Scott. Riley Scott treads a wobbly line between condemning this widespread and despicable practice, and telling the reader how to do it. He includes a crucial piece of advice: "Always wear rubber gloves."

Dammit, there is no room in our sandy treasure island bookshelf for New Guinea Tapeworms and Jewish Grandmothers or Ferret Facts and Fancies. But I want Frog Raising for Pleasure and Profit, if only for its handy recipes for such things as "minced giant bullfrog savoury sandwiches".

Any human activity, when looked at through narrowed eyes, can seem ridiculous. Some books add a little to the sum of human knowledge. But silly titles are a minor genre that adds to the gaiety of desert islands.



A mandarin in Peking

n my desk I have a bundle of papers some inch and a half thick, all of them consisting of complaints about the present Director of Public Prosecutions, Mrs Barbara Mills. A sample: ". . . policemen's leader described her as a disaster and said that she should be sacked . . . Is this woman more concerned with protecting criminals' rights than convicting them? . . . one senior Tory said

'She is a menace to the justice system' ... CPS director faces dissent from lawyers . . . Last week Mrs Mills faced calls to resign . . . " This bombardment of poor Mrs Mills could be taken with a shrug, and mostly

was, but she has now stepped into the limelight in a very different position. She has just come back from China, where she has been matching our legal system with China's, by the courtesy of the Chinese Government; she had come to "see for herself some of the 'major differences' between the two criminal justice systems".

And clearly, the Chinese Governme has gone far to inveigle this booby into believing that the Chinese are not all that different from us when it comes to the business of how their respective countries run. I start with this bon-bon: "The Chinese authorities have already come to Britain and a programme for their procurators is being organised."

I'll say it is being organised. But then comes the full blast of folly. "She visited the procuratorates or prosecuting authorities - in Peking, Tianjin and Shanghai, and also observed a murder trial." (What a pity she couldn't stay for the hanging.) "Major differences between the two criminal justice systems." She said it, not me. I was busy actually measuring the differences. Very major indeed, those differences. For I have in my hand a document, from the scrupulous work of Amnesty International, headed "China: No one is safe" and goes on: "Abuse of power — Torture — Executions". For where Mrs Mills sees invisible democracy coming one day, a fifth of the world's people may never defy, even in the smallest particular, the rules and orders and instructions and even beliefs that the Chinese Government has decreed. Go smile at that, Madam.

I now turn to Amnesty's document of reality. I rather doubt that Mrs Mills have been shown what now follows. It is a list of crimes which, in China, carry capital punishment. They

Does the DPP, Mrs Mills, have no shame about taking tea with evil?

are not just frighteners, and all of them have been used in executions:

... poisoning of livestock, murder, attempted murder, manslaughter, killing a
tiger, armed robbery, robbery, rape,
causing injury, assault, habitual theft,
theft, burglary, kidnapping, trafficking in
women or children, organising prostitution, pimping, organising pornography
rings, publishing pornography, hooliganism, seriously disrupting public order,
causing explosions, destroying or causing
damage to public or private property,
counter-revolutionary sabotage, arson,
drug-trafficking, corruption, embezzle-. poisoning of livestock, murder, atdrug-trafficking, corruption, embezzle-ment, taking bribes, fraud, speculation and profiteering, forgery, reselling valueadded tax receipts, tax evasion, stealing or illegally manufacturing weapons, illegally possessing or selling firearms and ammunition, stealing or dealing in national trea-sures or cultural relics, selling counterfeit

It is so awful that it almost becomes funny. I wonder what Mrs Mills would. have made of it, if her guide had been so careless as to show it to her. And did her

chaperones mention the Dying Rooms", in which babies unwanted by the State are flung down, among the filth and horror, to starve and die? What? They didn't say a word about it? How remiss! But surely Mrs Mills was shown one or two

mass executions, which are not only numerous but steadily growing more so? These people killed by the Government, you must understand, have not been tried, and indeed they have not set eyes on any kind of a court: thousands of people have been sent to the forced labour camps, with or without any reason being given. And if you haven't started to shudder yet. Mrs Mills, try this statistic: every year, more people are executed in China than in all the rest of the world put together. (But can it be that Mrs Mills was not given those

numbers? Tut, txt.)
Then Mrs Mills visited a prison. which, she thought, stood comparison with British jails ... Prisoners had quite a lot of freedom, recreation. They had televisions, a running-track and so on - and the prisoners appeared to be well-fed and looked after". And as far as I can see, she believed every word of it.

Well, let us see if we can dent that smugness; what about "Sentences are far heavier than in Britain". Again, Mrs Mills seems to be on the verge of announcing that two and two make four. Asssuredly, sentences are far heavier than in Britain, especially, I might say, when the sentences in question end with a bullet in the back of the neck.

Torture by the authorities is rife; pregnant women are in perpetual danger, as this statement, from a former planning official, shows:

It was part of my work to force women to have abortions. In the evening when the couple was likely to be at home, we would go to their houses and drag the woman out. If the woman was not at home, we would take her husband or anothe member along and keep them in custody until the woman turned herself in.

That's nothing. But I think this is: "An unmarried woman in Hebei province

who had adopted one of her brother's children was detained several times in an attempt to force her brother to pay fines for having had too many children. In November 1994 she was held for seven days with a dozen other men and women. She was reportedly blindfolded,

stripped naked, tied and beaten with an electric baton." (And don't think that women being beaten with an electric baton is a rare sight in China's cells.) What are the Chinese leaders afraid of? Revolution? It would be put down in

a single afternoon, and the ringleaders dead before that. Loss of face? That was abandoned years ago. A shortage of torture instruments? Alas, there has never been a shortage of those. Yet the leaders behave as if they were on the edge of a precipice and one step would take them over. Well then, what?

It cannot be, alas, the men and women who have dared to dely the brutish system; those heroes and heroines will get their prize in Heaven, not on this earth. The name Ren Wanding would be

known to only a few; but he was the man who dared to speak out, knowing what the penalty would be. He had been in China's jails before, based on his "calls for respect for human rights, free speech and the rule of law". He was then sentenced to seven years' prison, but before his "trial" he said. "I am no longer afraid. I have already died once in prison. Once you have been there, you are never really afraid again."

And what about those ten monks, who gave out leaflets which included a Tibetan translation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights? Pause for a moment at the thought of those monks. They knew what would happen. and it did: would you go on giving out leaflets in the shape of a tiny corner of the truth, when you knew what the result would be? I wouldn't. Well, these monks were sentenced for terms ranging from five years to 19 years. And Chinese prisoners sweat out their terms with no remission:

T thought of totting up all the prison terms I had noted in my document, but it would have taken me hours to finish. So instead, I thought about Wei Jingsheng, though I had thought a lot about him, and I dare say I shall think more about him yet. He was the man, if you don't know, who had been imprisoned for 13 years, with no remission, for "expressing his views about politics and human rights". Then he was released, and within weeks he was found expressing his views about politics and human rights again, whereupon he was sentenced to another 12 years. Let us come back to the beginning,

and those three tolling bells: "Abuse of power", "Torture", and "Executions". Yes, that masthead with its plain truth, "China - No one is sale", was absolutely right. But that makes one think not about a giant land called China that is striving to look as though it is a country that will one day match the real democracies, but about something much more like Rwanda.

As for the ones who truly believe everything and anything that they are told, there is little hope for them. Does Mrs Mills feel ashamed at what Amnesty has dug up while she was taking tea with evil? Well, if she doesn't, perhaps she might think about Taiwan, and agree that the Taiwanese are having a fine time. In any case, we should think about the Buddhist who has just been sentenced to 28 years.

Heeding 4 the wrong boffins

Magnus Linklater

asks how the beef saga came to this

The instinct of any British govern-ment is to protect British industries, to save money and to maintain public confidence. That is why the Government's response to health scares involving lood is almost always wrong.
Ministers react with caution when action is required, and panic when good sense should prevail. That is precisely what has happened with the BSE crisis. which is certainly the most serious of its kind since the war. For the Health Secretary, Stephen Dorrell, even to be contemplating the slaughter of Britain's II million cante is a measure of the desperate straits in which he now finds himself.

It would be an absurd and misguided solution, but what is every bit as deplorsolution, but what is every bit as deplorable is the history of missed opportunities, suppressed evidence and failure of nerve which has characterised the Government's handling of the issue hitherto. "I can't imagine a more damaging scenario," said one Borders farmer to me yesterday morning as he contemplated the possible end of his herd, built up carefully over seven years. "A large but unknown proportion of infected cattle, a large but unknown proportion of infected people, no reliable ests, and an incubation period of five to

fifteen years." The Government would argue that it has simply responded down the years to the best available scientific evidence, and that until Wednesday, when scientists at the Creutzfeld-Jakob Disease unit at Edinburgh's Western Committee at Edinburgh's Western General Hospital finally conceded that there might be a link between BSE and CJD, there was no reason to alarm the public and threaten a major industry.

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It is not so simple; science rarely is.

Down the years, there has been no shortage of solid warnings from wise and reliable experts that Britain faced a cattle epidemic which could turn into an equally catastrophic human epidemic. As long ago as the early 1980s, the environmental expert Richard North was hearing from vets, farmers, and abattoir owners about substantial levels of BSE in the West Country. The official response in 1986 was to offer farmers compensation for slaughtering infected cattle, but not only did the Governmen; fail to police this properly, but the compensation was only for half of the cattle's value. From 1986 to 1989, hundreds of infected cattle were allowed into the slaughtering system.

The Southwood committee, set up in 1988 to assess the possible dangers to human beings, contained no experts in spongiform brain disease, and concluded that the risk of passing on the disease was "remote". Ministers, from John Gummer onwards, have seized on this. seeing in it a way of holding the line. At the same time they have downplayed and even suppressed contradictory evidence. Dr Harash Narang, who submit-ted evidence linking BSE and CJD in 1990, and who claims to have devised urinary tests for diagnosing both diseases, has seen his career decline. Dr Gerald Forbes, formerly director of environmental health in Scotland, says he was "sidelined" when he refused to accept the government view of BSE. Professor Richard Lacey, who has been a moving force in urging the ban of offal and other parts of slaughtered cattle since 1990, is regarded as unreliable. and the view of Sir Bernard Tomlinson, the retired neuropathologist, who said publicly last year that he had warned his children and grandchildren not to eat beefburgers, was dismissed.

ut instead, the Government has Concentrated mainly on epidemi-ology, investigating dietary habits and the risks faced by farmers, vets and slaughtermen. Richard North says there were flaws in the way evidence was reported. The Government veterinary service was being cut back just when first-hand evidence was needed, and there was a fatal division of responsibility between the the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of

Dr Forbes believes that the ministry was too close to the farming lobby, and so was prepared to shrug off evidence linking the two diseases. "I've always said the agriculture department was too fond of the farmers," he told me. "All the running was made by veterinary officers

rather than medical officers." Perhaps worst of all, the whole BSE saga has been shrouded in the kind of secrecy that characterises so much government policy. There has been a suspicion of those who challenge the orthodox view and an unwillingness to discuss the risk for fear of putting a £3 billion industry at risk. The net result

has been to achieve precisely that. Asked yesterday what we should do now, most experts began with a version of "I wouldn't have started from here". But all agreed that the wholesale slaughter of Britain's cattle would be a mistake. Richard North pointed out that since only ten deaths from CJD had been linked to cattle, the causes of another 90 are unaccounted for. Dr Narang believes that his urinary test must now be given proper consideration, if only because if it proves reliable it would be the quickest way of restoring public confidence. Dr Forbes points out that eliminating Britain's cattle herd will do nothing for people already infected, and adds that incidences of BSE are now in steady decline.

What clearly needs to change is the way health risks are tackled. What the BSE scandal reveals is that when a P·H·S government is afraid of the answers, it is not prepared to listen to the questions. government is afraid of the answers, it is

Fish to fry

SIX YEARS ON, John Gummer may be regretting feeding his young daughter Cordelia a hamburger in front of the cameras. But the public relations exercise cannot have been so foolhardy as that of a number of Peruvian politicians who in 1991 were trying to play down a cholera scare in their country.

The Peruvian Fisheries Minister, Félix Canal Torres, appeared on television to reassure the public. He was joined by the President. Alberto Keinya Fujimori, and the Agriculture Minister. And together, they cheerfully tucked into a plate of raw fish to prove that it was perfectly safe for human consumption. Sensibly, the Health Minister refused to

indulge himself. The next day, Canal Torres fell ill. Indeed, so sick was the poor fellow that he had to be carted off to hospital. The South American newspapers reported, a touch too gleefully, that he was suffering

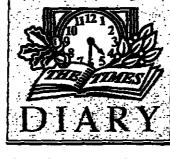
from cholera. Fortunately, he made a good recovery and the official government line was that he had laryngitis, unrelated to his TV dinner. But Canal Torres now thinks twice before feasting on raw fish.

 Stephen Dorrell's pronouncement on "mad cow" disease disturbed the rural slumber at the Archers studio at Radio 4. Staff were summoned to re-record part of last night's episode and incorporate a "topical insert" on the British beef crisis — just as they were summoned when Terry Waite was released. John Archer, whose family has farmed for umpteen generations, became the first Archer to fight shy of beef.

One's snack

AS NIGHT falls on Mayfair, a car pulls out from the Lancer's International restaurant opposite Claridge's and makes its way to Buckingham Palace. Kuldeep Makhni, owner and head chef at the restaurant, is on his twiceweekly curry run, whizzing round bhunas, bhajis and bindi for the

Queen and her household. Specialising in French and Chinese as well as Indian cuisine. Lancer's has won its royal contract after being open a mere four months. Makhni, however, who owns six restaurants in his home city of Bombay, is used to royalty. When the Kings of Nepal and



Bhutan feel like something spicy, it is his telephone which rings. So, is the Queen a vindaloowallah or a sucker for the soothing korma? Unlike certain other royal retainers, Makhni is something of a limp poppadum when it comes to divulging the private tastes of his First Customer. "I can say nothing officially at this time," he says. I'll warrant he will in time.

Final score COLLECTORS of cricket ephemera will be out in force for a forthcoming auction. Brian Johnston's family is to sell the contents of the great man's study. Proceeds from the Phillips auction, to be held this summer, will go to the Brian Johnston Memorial Trust.

An early inventory reveals that Johnners squirrelled away scorecards, his commentary notes and Iman and David: just comfy

scraps of paper from as far back as his university days. "We don't describe him as a collector," says his son lan. "I think 'hoarder' would be the right word."

Popping up

CHELSEA is to have yet another celebrity resident: pop star and modernist dauber David Bowie. Bowie has cheered up a depressed property market by snapping up a house in Gilston Road, Chelsea (est. price, £2.5 million). Now 49. Bowie has reached life's mellow season after years jetting between digs in Switzerland, Musti-



que, Umbria and the Irish Repub-lic, as well as London.

In a recent interview, he said that he and his wife, the model Iman, would need "seclusion, sep-arate staff cottages and an indoor swimming pool". With payments owing on their Audi convertibles. the estate agents are only too happy to oblige.

Closed book

A NEW skirmish has broken out in this year's battle of the books: the tussle between Sonia Land. chief executive of the literary agency Sheil Land, and her erstwhile colleague Giles Gordon.

Since resigning from Sheil Land to join rivals Curtis Brown, Gordon has been reeling from her onslaughts. First he received an injunction limiting communication with former clients such as Peter Ackroyd and Vikram Seth, then a writ arrived alleging that a press campaign against her. With the injunction lifted, Gordon was beginning to relax - but now Ms Land has issued a writ against the

Six veils

ONE of the Royal Ballet's youngest starbursts has stumbled into a lucrative career as a hat model.

L LOUITUIS I



Ballet good show, Sarah

Sarah Wildor, 23, was discovered recently by Janis Anderson, managing director of Bermona hats, after a night at the ballet.

When she looked up from her programme to see the lissom Wildor tiptoeing onto the stage as Manon, Anderson was won. Within days, the ballering was signed up. "She has the most wonderful eyes," gushes Anderson. "They bring to mind the saying that they are the window of the soul." For the purists, Wildor can be seen in her six-hanky performance of Giselle next month.



A HAPPY HYBRID

Ulster's parties should accept these elections

The electoral system for Ulster's peace forum unveiled yesterday looks an ugly mongrel. The combination of constituency lists and Province-wide popularity polls will fascinate psephologists but leaves the parties dis-satisfied and the people, for the moment, bewildered. But, given the raw materials with which it had to work, the Government has fashioned a workable compromise which no reasonable party can object to on principled grounds. Northern Ireland's politicians would do their people a grave disservice if they did not seek to make the mongrel work.

Devising elections for a peace convention was always going to be a task to rest ministers' ingenuity. Scarcely more than a month ago nationalist Ireland regarded elections as an Orange ramp designed to restore Stormont by stealth. Once Dublin and John Hume had been persuaded to travel to all-party talks by a democratic path another difference emerged: each party preferred a separate path. The Ulster Unionists wanted to use Westminster constituencies, the DUP and SDLP advocated variants of the European election practice of treating the Province as one constituency.

Each side dressed up its case with arguments of principle but it was obvious they were manoeuvring for simple party advantage. Westminster elections play to the Ulster Unionists' strength and the European poll rewards the longer-serving, high-profile leaders of the SDLP and DUP.

Churchill observed that democracy was the worst way of choosing politicians, apart from all the rest. The same could be said of these elections. If the Government had adopted any of the proffered systems it would instantly have alienated a significant section of mainstream Ulster opinion and imperilled progress. It had to devise a

scheme whose parentage was, at the least obscure, at best various. The resulting compromise delights no party but it passes the important tests.

The system seems complex but it will be simple for the voters. They will vote once, for the party they wish to represent them in negotiations on Ulster's future. Voting by constituency should help smaller parties whose support is geographically con-centrated, such as the Alliance or the fringe Unionists who speak for the loyalist paramilitaries. The top-up 20 elected from the Province's ten biggest parties should maximise inclusiveness.

Not only will the forum grant democratic legitimacy to those who should negotiate a stable settlement in Ulster, it will also exist as a body in which Northern Ireland's politicians can learn new habits. Nationalist fears of the forum evolving into another Protestant parliament should be allayed by

the two-year maximum life-span laid down. Talks should follow elections almost immediately, but it looks gravely unlikely that they will be all-party. Without an IRA ceasefire there will be no invitation to Sinn Fein. Ministers insist that, even with an unequivocal ceasefire, there will be no progress without a commitment from the republicans to pursue their goals by exclusively peaceful methods and tackle decommissioning. There is already pressure to dilute these conditions. It must be resisted.

Ulster's future should be decided by those prepared to compromise and accept the will of the Province's people. Republicans still show no sign of accepting basic principles of democratic consent. The best response to terror is a determination by democrats not to weaken, but to learn to work together. The forum is the place to start and these elections are the best available route there.

THE POLITICIAN AND THE COW

A modern morality tale for adults and children

However carefully chosen the sombre words of ministers and government scientists, the alarm about beef safety is growing. The Spongiform Encephalopathy Advisory Committee will not decide until the weekend whether it is safe to allow children to eat beef products. But more schools throughout the country have taken hamburgers off the mis.u. In Brussels, veterinary experts are meeting today to see how the European Union can protect its consumers." But already France. Germany and Belgium have imposed bans on all British beef. Their action is illegal; but their response entirely understandable. On this side of the Channel, British consumers are about to inflict on the E4 billion beef industry one of the most devastating boycotts to hit a staple food.

Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, is even contemplating the wholesale slaughter of Britain's cattle in an attempt to rid the country of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). Scientists who have long raised their voices against government complacency are now listened to with respect and trepidation. Professor Richard Lacey suggests that up to 500,000 people may develop Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease. Sales of beef now look set for a precipitous decline. Farmers face ruin at the weekend auctions; thousands may go bankrupt.

It is a terrible tale of woe which is not over yet. Mere reassurance will not halt the immediate stampede away from beef. There is no reassurance while herds are infected and even the smallest possibility exists of transmission to human beings. Popular feeling is fickle but the Government must steel itself for a castastrophe in British agriculture. If all herds had to be destroyed, full compensation for 11 million cattle would run to about £14 billion, with perhaps a further £6 billion for the loss of beef-related jobs. Beef would be scarce for about five years; imported dairy products would be prohibitively expensive.

The Government may balk at such a step. The question of compensation itself would be controversial. Even allowing that the Government must be held responsible because it approved the feeding methods which allowed BSE to be passed through the ruminant food chain, analogous industrial arguments for tax-payer bale-outs receive scant shrift. Builders have not been so generously compensated for ripping out asbestos, even though the Government approved it as a suitable fire-resistant material.

Agriculture has to be shown to be different. But how different? Farmers are the stewards of the countryside; their survival is essential to our enjoyment of our own land; although wartime ideas that Britain needs autarky in food production no longer hold water, farming is still an essential industry. These arguments hold force but not as much force as once they did. Agriculture needs to be weaned from dependence on subsidies. European intervention prices and other modern trends which have dmaged farmers reputations, not least for stewardship of the countryside.

Movement to freer markets is needed. But that movement needs to be gradual and sure if it is to gain common consent. Political realities alone - obvious from a look at the electoral map — shows that no politician dare offend the farming lobby by precip-

itately denying support. Any strategy to counter BSE and future crises of the same kind must deal with the power of the farming lobby. In many ways it is the very success of British agriculture, its arrogance in believing that it can go against nature in feeding cattle, that has so contributed to the BSE catastrophe. The Ministry of Agriculture has itself been too long too influenced by the food producers. The independent voice of consumers has been too weak. Humility must inform the tough decisions ahead. The Government and the country have paid a high price for hubris.

THE PIGEON HAS LANDED

Why the VAT-man is a spoilsport

There was first the mystery thief of Trafalgar Square who crammed hundreds of pigeons into his cardboard box, destined for we know not what end. Now, in another cruel blow to the pigeon monde, a Customs and Excise tribunal in Bristol has ruled that pigeon racing is not a "sport": it is, instead, a mere "hobby". Members of the Royal Pigeon Racing Association will, as a result, have to pay VAT on their annual subscriptions, netting about £30,000 a year for the taxman.

We do not like this one bit. Pigeon racing is a sport, and to class it as a hobby or pastime - lumping it with Pooh-sticks. tiddlywinks or table-football - is but to traduce heedlessly an ancient art. There are few creatures more sophisticated than the homing pigeon, and the bond between bird and trainer is often akin to that between

clever child and proud parent. There are important questions that we feel obliged to raise. Can the killjoy tribunal have been unaware that pigeons were raced at the time of the fifth Egyptian dynasty? Did its members know that the Sultan of Baghdad established a pigeon post system in the 12th century AD, and that Genghis Khan - known as much for his love of pigeons as for his hatred of other living things - used just such a system to link one bloody corner of his empire to another?

called) and carrier pigeons, news travelled to London to be printed - and then travelled back to Paris, reduced to microscopic size, to be read by projection onto a screen.

The VAT-slapped racing pigeons of today belong to that noble line which once took The Times to war-locked Paris: the tribunal, whose sense of poetry is small, clearly does not appreciate this. And its mean-spirited decision, predictably, could lead to yet more problems with Brussels. The trouble, fortunately, would not arise with the European Commission this time, although there can be no guarantees in this business. It would arise, instead, with that other renowned body whose headquarters are in the Belgian capital - the Fédération Colombophile International. British pigeon racers: take your case to pigeon-loving Brussels. Unite! You have nothing to lose but your VAT.

And did the tribunal really expect a sympathetic response from The Times? After all, our relationship with the homing pigeon is a warm and affectionate one, and goes back to the Franco-Prussian War of 1870. During the harsh siege of Paris, communications between the French capital and Printing House Square were cut off more completely than they were even during the Napoleonic Wars. By an ingenious combination of hotair balloons ("windbags" as they were then

> The lottery is not a denial of Thatcherism; it is its apotheosis. Yours faithfully, PETER SCOTT,

24 Cefn Coed Avenue, Cardiff.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Dangers of BSE link with humans

From Professor Emeritus Ivor H. Mills

Sir, Yesterday's announcement by the Government that the strain of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease in the young people and farmers who died of the disease in recent years is a new one (reports, March 21) must revive the worries that CJD represents a transspecies infection by BSE from cattle to humans. The much faster fall in the number of BSE cattle slaughtered per month will not allay these fears.

Although those of us who gave evidence to the Select Committee on Agriculture in 1990 must regret that we were not able to make the case forceful enough to persuade the Government to take much more rigid measures to saleguard the population, the accent now must be firstly to try to fathorn how they were infected and secondly to decide on the essential steps to prevent unnecessary further infection.

The oral route of infection with prion protein diseases, such as scrapie and CJD, requires a heavy infection which could come from the nervous system or the lymphoid tissues, especially in made-up meat products. How then did the farmers get infected by caring for cattle bearing BSE?

In giving evidence to the committee in 1990 Dr Helen Grant stressed the risks from opening the skulls of affected animals and spraying parts of infected brain over the rest of the meat or into the atmosphere that the abattoir workers were inhaling. Equally, if the farmers fed the meat and bone meal to their cattle, the dust that such food produces could have been breathed in by the farmers and caused the infection.

From now on the brains of calves under six months should not be available for consumption by man or animals. Meat and bone meal should not be allowed to be made from any cattle or flocks of sheep or goats known to have scrapie. Such stocks which are available should not be used to feed any animals or birds. Destruction of all offal from cattle and sheep should be in such a manner that it cannot get into the environment - eg. it should not be buried where rats or other animals can get at it and run the risk of spreading the abnormal prion throughout the wild animal popula-

It still seems to me that muscle meat "a cut off the joint") is safe to eat if strict precautions are taken to prevent contamination. Made-up meat dishes will still be highly suspect unless one muscle meat.

Yours faithfully IVOR H. MILLS. University of Cambridge Clinical School, Department of Surgery. Douglas House, Addenbrooke's Hospital. Frumpington Road, Cambridge. March 21.

From Ms Sara Starkey

Sir. We are told it is best to breast-feed our babies, thus immunising them with our antibodies to help protect them in the first months of life. We are also told, while breast-feeding, not to take alcohol, smoke or consume unnecessary medication and drugs, as this will taint our breast milk.

We now have a panic (rightly,) believe) over a connection between BSE and CJD through the eating of beef. As farmers can milk cows until the day a cow is diagnosed with BSE. surely the Government and the media should be further investigating the possibility of a link between the consumption of cow's milk and other dairy products and BSE/CJD. Or is such a link too inconvenient and too awful to contemplate?

Yours etc. SARA STARKEY, 12a Ashburnham Road. Tonbridge, Kent.

From Mr R. M. Pickering

Sir, Could there be a clearer illustration of why the public does not trust politicians than the Government's handling of BSE?

Yours etc. ROBERT PICKERING. 31 Argyll Road, W&. March 21.

Lottery dreams

From Mr Peter Scott

Sir. Tim Congdon (article, March 15; letters, March 21) is mistaken in contrasting the dream of winning the lottery with the Thatcherite "virtues of thrift and hard work".

The prospect of something for nothing has been a characteristic of government policy for the last 16 years: the sale of council houses at below market prices, the windfall profits from privatisation, the desire for taxcuts, the creation of unemployment and insecurity with the resulting expansion of the dependency culture.

Business letters, page 27

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Divorce law: good intentions and lessons of experience

From Baroness Young and others Sir, We were disappointed by the let-

ters from Lord Carr and Lord Elton and from the Bishop of Worcester (March 18) concerning the Family Law Bill. They fail to take account of some of the key points that were raised during the lengthy proceedings in the House of Lords. Above all they fail to recognise that

fault is not to blame for so-called "quickie" divorces, but rather the special procedure introduced in 1977 under a statutory instrument. This cut the time between decree nisi and decree absolute from six months to six weeks, so encouraging people to allege fault. In Northern Ireland, where there is

no special procedure, the majority of divorces are on the basis of two or five years' separation, and there is no clamour to change their law. In Scotland as recently as 1989 the Scottish Law Commission recommended a retention of a fault-based system, and their divorce rate is lower than in England and Wales.

The Bishop of Worcester's description of the Bill as putting "marriage and the family at the centre" beggars belief. The "no-fault" experience in other countries shows that it has increased the divorce rate. The most thorough and detailed American study to date showed that no-fault divorce led to a significant increase in the divorce rate of between 15 per cent and 25 per cent.

We believe that the same factors that operated there could well lead to a comparable increase in this country. Similar evidence is becoming available from Australia. It should come as a warning, and not a surprise, that almost a quarter of US states are considering Bills to repeal their no-fault divorce laws.

When the "no-fault" provision is coupled with the provision to allow a divorce at the end of a year, even against the wishes of one of the parties - without any reason being given ex-cept the irretrievable breakdown of the marriage — young people in par-ticular will see this as divorce on demand, and hardly an example to set to

the next generation.

With today's report that the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys expects a further increase in the percentage of marriages ending in di-vorce, we hope that Conservative colleagues in the Commons will amend this flawed Bill to promote the institu-tion of marriage. The Conservative Party has always believed in the tra-

ditional family, and the institution of

marriage. It is time for it to live up to

Yours faithfully, YOUNG, JEFFREY ARCHER. GRIFFITHS of FFORESTFACH. House of Lords.

From the Principal of St Anne's College, Oxford

its beliefs.

March 20.

Sir. The present debate on divorce reform (letters, March 8, 18) has been to some extent invalidated by a lack of appreciation of the gap that always opens up between family law on the statute book and its effect in practice. For example, judging by precedent, the one-year waiting period is hardly likely to amount to a genuine opportunity for reflection because the pressure to reach the required financial settlements within it will itself be an embittering and terminal experience in those cases where there is any money or property to divide.

The start of the year will also provide an opportunity for (usually) the wife to seek an order to oust her husband from the home, a move which is tactically advantageous under our ancillary relief principles and will be facilitated by the domestic violence part of the Family Law Bill. An ouster order will effectively scotch the prospects for reconciliation or second thoughts.

No-fault divorce originated in California in 1969 and has spread to all 50 American states. Just like our proposals, they had the best of intentions, and they all have a cooling-off period of six to 12 months and media-

tion for children's issues. The results have been a rise in divorce, the destruction of any residual power to bargain and delay divorce on the part of the spouse who does not want it, and continuing damage to children. No-fault divorce in the US is widely

recognised as having become divorce on demand. Several American states now have plans to repeal no-fault divorce and to return to marriage with obligations. It is ironic that we are seemingly about to enact a divorce law that has been tried and found to fail in its objectives in the US.

Yours sincerely, R. L. DEECH, Principal, St Anne's College, Oxford.

From the Director and Chief Executive of the NSPCC

Sir. The NSPCC welcomes the intention of the Family Law Bill to reduce family breakdown and save marriages. The Bill will provide an in-valuable opportunity for couples to consider their difficulties and for saving their relationship. This can only be good for the children.

We recognise that all families are different and that decisions about how long a period of reflection between initial application and the granting of a divorce is always going to be con-troversial and difficult. We do, however, take the view that on balance a 12-month period should be sufficient for a couple to decide whether or not the marriage can be saved.

We know that the disruption caused by divorce can severely limit the parents' capacity to care for their children, and we believe that any longer period would unnecessarily extend the duration of uncertainty and insecurity for the child. A year is a very long time in the life of a child, both developmentally and psychologically.

Yours sincerely, JIM HARDING, Director and Chief Executive, The National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. 42 Curtain Road, EC2. March 20.

Unrest in Bahrain

From Sir Steven Runciman

Sir, On March 15 you reported an outrage in Bahrain, where an Indian restaurant was destroyed by fire and several workers killed in the blaze. By linking the incident to violence from Shia Muslims you apparently imply the lack of Western-style democracy in that country.

While it is difficult to see how the cause of democracy is helped by the massacre of six innocent Indians, most people familiar with the Gulf know that the unrest in Bahrain is due to agents from Islamic Shia fundamentalists sent from Iran by a government whose propagandists have realised that complaints that democracy does not exist in Bahrain will win sympathy for their cause from the media in Britain and the United States

Bahrain is chosen by the Iranians as a suitable target for their imperialism because, while the ruling family there belongs to the Sunni persuasion, the majority of its citizens are Shia. Most of them have lived contentedly

for generations under the benevolent and tolerant rule of the al-Khalifa dynasty: others have come over more recently, to escape from the authoritarian government in Iran.

They know themselves to be fortunate in living in a country where there is no income tax, where food and housing are subsidised and most medical treatment is absolutely free and which maintains the old Muslim tradition of allowing every inhabitant to have personal access to the Ruler.

When I last visited Bahrain, earlier this year. I was impressed by the lack of poverty and the general contentment of its people. It is sad that the cause and importance of the recent incidents there should be misinterpreted by the media in this country and go uncorrected by the authorities; this is already beginning to damage the popularity of the British in Bahrain. It would be tragic were Britain to lose the friendship of her most loyal and generous ally in the Muslim world.

Yours faithfully, STEVEN RUNCIMAN. Elshieshields, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire.

Musician of fun No Smoking Day

From Mr J. M. Macmillan

Sir, Your obituary of Lady Read (March 15) did fine justice to her musicality and personality but to my mind did not completely capture the tre-mendous fun and adventure of being involved in her musical enterprises.

The first revived Hovingham Festival in the early 1950s at Hovingham Hall, North Yorkshire, was preceded by great bustle and excitement, and for a young boy it seemed the most so-phisticated happening imaginable. The performance of Purcell's *Dido* and Aeneas, which she staged in the temple above Rievaulx Abbey, was so moving that even now it is easy to feel again the romance and tragedy.

My most enduring memory of Margaret Read was her attendance at Mass at Ampleforth. Because the Catholic Church did not recognise her marriage to Sir Herbert, whose wife was still alive, she was "living in sin" and therefore could not receive Holv Communion. But there she knelt every Sunday.

Yours faithfully, JAMES MACMILLAN, Curling Tye Cottage, Woodham Walter, Maldon, Essex.

Taiwan sovereignty

belongs to them.

From Mr S. Y. Lee Sir, When Tajwan's sovereignty is discussed as in Jonathan Mirsky's report today, it seems to me that Taiwan is just like a lost property waiting for someone to claim its ownership. I would like to point out claims. that 21 million people live there and the sovereignty of Taiwan surely

Yours faithfully, SHIUN YONG LEE (Chairman), The Taiwanese Association in the United Kingdom, 21 Welldon Crescent. Harrow, Middlesex. March 19.

March lo.

From Mr Clive Turner

Sir, Lady Hillhouse, Chair of No Smoking Day 1996, tells us (letter, March 19) that this annual event is not staterun, but is an independent charity. Maybe, but the main component parts of that charity are unquestionably supported by the taxpayer. ASH, one of the prime movers, receives substantial government funding, and who does Lady Hillhouse suppose provides resources for the Health

Education Authority? In any case, the prevailing motivation of the 11 million ex-smokers in this country has not been any special day, but principally the long-standing government greed in imposing tobacco tax increases, now providing over £9 billion a year, or £18,000 a minute, for the Exchequer.

Yours faithfully, **CLIVE TURNER** (Executive Director. Industry Affairs), Tobacco Manufacturers' Association, 55 Tufton Street, Westminster, SW1. March 19.

Housing repairs From Mr Allan Gore

Sir, Judge Holman (letter, March 16) is right. The combined effect of the recent brake on costs imposed by the Court of Appeal and of the latest increase in the financial limit of the small claims jurisdiction of the county court will be to bar some of the poorest and most needy members of society from legal advice and representation in the pursuit of housing repair

Such cases turn on some of the most labyrinthine, obscure and complex laws of the land. I ask Lords Woolf (civil justice review) and Mackay (legal aid review), is this access to iustice?

Yours sincerely, ALLAN GORÉ. 12 Kings Bench Walk, Temple, EC4.

English syllabus

From the Chief Executive of the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority

Sir, Far from marginalising Shakespeare, as Susan Elkin suggests (Education, March 15; letter, March 19). GCSE English syllabuses will enthe first time, all bubit are required to submit work on a Shakespeare play.

This is not the case at present. Neither the English nor the English Literature GCSE requirements insist that Shakespeare is examined. In some syllabuses no more than a sonnet, or an extract from a play, is re-

The new GCSE syllabuses aim to preserve balance in the English curriculum. This means demanding high standards in grammar, syntax, spelling and punctuation, and placing a new emphasis on the English literary heritage. It also means introducing pupils to the richness of writing in English from around the world, and to different types of non-fiction.

Pupils need a critical appreciation of great literature. They also need a level of literacy that will allow them to function effectively in further studies or in work. The strengthened rules for GCSE will help to meet these goals.

Yours faithfully. NICHOLAS TATE. Chief Executive, School Curriculum and Assessment Authority. Newcombe House. 45 Notting Hill Gate, Wil. March 19.

Workless in the wings

From Mrs Lisa England

Sir. Whilst having every sympathy with the plight of "resting" actors de-prived of unemployment benefit (report, March 19), I was astonished to read that 25 per cent of Equity members (some 10,000) had not worked at all during the last year. This suggests

that the profession is oversubscribed. If you enter an oversubscribed profession, must you not take responsibility for the luxury of making that choice? Should you not try supporting vourself in some other occupation. whilst waiting to exercise your skills. rather than expect the diminishing number of taxpayers to support you?

Yours faithfully, LISA ENGLAND, 84a Oakwood Court, W14. March 19.

Couch potatoes

From Mrs Jennifer Radice

Sir, "Research shows that six out of ten men and seven out of ten women spend too much time sitting around" (report, March 20).

I collect "research has shown" news items. This one is a gem. How much is too much? How did the researchers classify "sitting around"? Is one exempted from the implied condemnation if one is writing letters, embroidering petit point or even reading The Times?

Yours faithfully. JENNIFER RADICE. 10 Middleton Road, NWII. March 21.

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COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 21: His Excellency Mr J.Y. Pillay was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Commission as High Commissioner for the Republic of Singapore in

Mrs Pillay was also received by Her Majesty.
Sir John Coles (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for For-

eign and Commonwealth Affairs) His Excellency Señor Herrán Errazuriz was received in farewell audience by The Queen and took

leave upon relinquishing his appointment as Ambassador from the Republic of Chile to the Court of St James's. Sir Tim Lankester (former

Permanent Secretary, Department for Education and Employment) was received by Her Majesty. Lady Millar was received by The Queen when Her Majesty invested her with the Insignia of a Com-mander of the Royal Victorian

The Hon Barry McFadzean was received by The Queen and delivered upon the Insignia of the Order of the Thistle worn by his father, the late Lord McFadzean.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE March 21: The Princess Royal today visited Worcestershire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hereford and Worcester (Sir Thomas Dunne). Her Royal Highness, Patron, SENSE — the National Deafblind

and Rubella Association, this morning visited the SENSE shop. The Princess Royal, President, later visited the Save the Children

Fund Shop, 18 Pump Street.

Her Royal Highness. President, British Knitting and Clothing Ex-port Council, this afternoon visited Action Apparal Limited, 11-12 Palmers Road, East Moons Moat,

The Princess Royal later visited the Royal Hospital for Sick Child-ren. Yorkhill National Health Service Trust, Yorkhill, and was

Duke of Edinburgh, will visit the

Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust,

Slimbridge. Gloucestershire, at

10.10; and will visit the Royal

Agricultural College, Cirencester.

The Princess Royal, as President of

the Save the Children Fund, and will visit St Mellon's Estate project.

St Mellon's Enterprise Centre, 31

Crickhowell Road, at 10.45; will

attend the Women in Wales lun-

cheon at the City Hall, Cardiff, at

The Twelfith Bagrit Evening was held on Thursday, March 21, at The Sir Leon Bagrit Centre, Imper-

ial College of Science, Technology and Medicine. The lecture "GP

Lead Health Care and the Role of

Information Technology" was delivered by Professor Brian

Jarman, Head of the Department

of General Practice, St Mary's

Hospital. London. A dinner was

held afterwards in the atrium of

The Centre. Among those present

Sir Peter Baxendeli, Sir Austin

Bide, Baroness Brigstocke, Sir Matthew and Lady Farrer, Professor Sir Leslie Turnburg and Professor Richard Kitney (Director of the Centre).

The Sir Leon

Bagrit Centre

at 12.15.

received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Glasgow (Mr Thomas Dingwall, the Rt Hon

ST JAMES'S PALACE March 21: The Prince of Wales. President, The Prince's Trust, this morning received the polar explorer, Mr David Hempleman-Adams, whose next expedition will raise money for the Trusts.

His Royal Highness was present when The Prince's Trust received its "Investor in People" Award from the Central London Training and Enterprize Council.

The Prince of Wales, President, Royal Naval Film Corporation, this afternoon attended the Annual General Meeting and Luncheon at Si James's Palace.

His Royal Highness, President The Prince's Trust, later attended a meeting at St James's Palace to plan the Grant Thornton initiative to support the business advice given to young entrepreneurs helped by the Trust.

The Prince of Wales this evening held a Concert and Dinner to celebrate the Eightieth Birthday of the Lord Menuhin at Buckingham

KENSINGTON PALACE

March 21: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Action on Smoking and Health, was present this afternoon at a Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Professor Charles Fletcher (formerly President of Action on Smoking and Health) which was held in St Paul's Cathedral, London EC4.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE March 21: The Duke of Kent. Colonel-in-Chief, Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, today received Lieutenant-General Sir Jeremy

Reilly on relinquishing Colonelcy of the Regiment and Brigadier David Biggart on assuming the The Duchess of Kent, Patron, today visited the Department of

Orthodics, Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre. Windmill Road, Headington, Oxford and was met on arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Oxfordshire (Mr

The Duchess of Kent will open the

Ferens Building, Hull University, at noon: will open the Holderness Community Health Trust's new

Horse Guards at II.00.

School news

The following have been awarded:

Scholarships: H.R.S. Montgomery, Summer Fields: P.W.E. Massey, Summer Fields: C.J. Comona. Milbourne Lodge; H.J.M. Seligman, Colet. Court; H.P.J.J. Warren. Caldicott.

Harrow School

1996 Scholarships

Royal engagements

The London Institute

Luncheon

The Chairman of the London Institute, Mr Julian E. Markham, was the host at a luncheon held yesterday at the Institute's Headquarters in Davies Street, Wl. The

Mr Bran Davies, MP, Baroness Blackstone (Master of Birbeck College), Sir Robin Ibbs (Chairman of Lovds Bank), Mr Alen Webster (British Council), Mr Rodney Fisch and Prolessor John McKenzie (Rector of the

Service dinners

HMS Collingwood Commodore J. Chadwick, the new Commodore of HMS Collingwood, was the guest of honour at a mess guest night dinner held last night in the Wardroom HMS Collingwood. Commander J. Blackett presided.

day care centre. Park Street, at 1.45: and will visit Wansbeck Primary School, Warning Grove, Longhill Estate, at 3.25. RN College Greenwich Prince Nicholas Galitzine was the principal guest at a mess guest night dinner held last night at the Royal Naval College Greenwich. Commander 1.R. Wellesley-Har-ding, Commander of the College. The Queen's Life Guard mounts at The Queen's Guard mounts at

Roval Artillery

The Mayor and Mayoress of Greenwich were present at the Royal Artillery Spring dinner held last night at Woolwich. General Sir Martin Faradale, Master Gunner, St James's Park, presided. Among others present were: Antong overeits present were:
The Norwegian Ambassador and Mrs.
Vrazisen, Lord and Lady Nolao, Sir.
Robert and Lady Scott, Sir. David and
Lady Scott, Sir. David and Lady Lees and
Major-General and Mrs. Jack Devereil.

Liverpool University

Exhibitions: J.J. Stacey, The Hali: A.D. Lusher, Cheam Hawtreys; R.H. Tze, St Bede's: H.G. Burrett, Wellesley House; C.H.C. Gordon, Ludgrove. Air Squadron Air Vice-Marshal J.R. Day, Air Officer Commanding No I Group, Strike Command, was the guest of Music Scholarships: S.S.M.B. Thomson. Christ Church Cathedral School: A.C. Eadon. King's College School: C.P. Collins, Verulam School: R.E. Jacobs, Llandafi Cathedral School. honour at the annual dinner of Liverpool University Air Squadron held last night at RAF Woodvale. Squadron Leader M.J. Murphy presided. The Vice-Chancellor of Music Exhibitions: G.T. Murphy. The Beacon, Americam: T. Lochotinan, Papplewick. Liverpool University and the Pro Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the Military Education Committee Art Scholarship: N.J. Strachan, Heath Mount. were the principal guests.

Memorial service

Sir Stephen Spender A service of thanksgiving to cele-brate the life and work of Sir Stephen Spender was held on Wednesday at St Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square. The Rev Nicholas Holtham officiated. Mr Matthew Spender, son, read

Knebworth seeks

£12m to repair

faulty towers

term programme of repair

and renovation had been

started in 1971 but there is

still a substantial backlog.

Many of the present difficul-

ties are the result of 19th-

century attempts to

The report examines a

number of options including

converting the house to an

educational establishment.

offices or hospital; transform-

ing the grounds into a theme park; and an appeal for funds

from the National Lottery. However, John Hoy, gen-

eral manager of Knebworth,

indicated yesterday that none of these was likely to provide

a satisfactory solution. He

said the present 130,000 visi-tors would have to increase

fifteen to twentyfold to supply

The house, although lav-

ishly furnished, contained no

outstanding works of art, Mr Hoy said. "If we had a Three

Graces or a Canaletto, we

would have sold it long ago."

of the trustees, said he was

aware of the dilemma for con-

servationists of allowing the

house to decay or sanction

building on green belt. But

the trustees were determined

Knebworth should remain

part of the nation's heritage.

David Morgan, chairman

the revenue needed.

modernise the house.

KNEBWORTH HOUSE, the

great Gothic palace in Hert-

fordshire where Charles Dickens acted, Winston

Churchill painted, Edward

Bulwer-Lytton wrote The

Last Days of Pompeii, and pop groups including the Rolling Stones, Pink Floyd

and the Beach Boys played to huge outside audiences, is in

A report published yester-

day calculates that it needs an endowment of £12 million to

ensure its future upkeep. The

most practicable, but also the

most controversial, way of

raising the money would be

to build housing or a busi-

ness park on the estate which

Knebworth was purchased for £800 in 1490 by Sir Robert

Lytton. He began building

the house early in the loth

century and it has since been

widely altered and extended.

Its features include a

Jacobean banqueting hall, a

Victorian state drawing room, and an Edwardian

dining parlour designed by

Sir Edwin Lutyens who also

supervised the layout of the

gardens. In 1984 its owner,

Lord Cobbold, made it over to

a charitable trust but contin-

ues to live with his family in

part of the building. A long-

is designated green belt.

the lesson. Mr Ted Hughes, Poet Laureate, Mr Harold Pinter, Professor James Fenton, Professor of Poetry, Oxford University, Miss Jill Balcon and Mr Barry Humphries, son-in-law, read poems written by Sir Stephen. Professor Richard Wollheim gave an address. Among others present

Jenkins, Lord and Lady Palumbo.

Lord and Lady Quinton, Lord
Rosshschild, Lord Wyant of Weeford, Mr.
Roy Hathersley, MP. Mrs Jeremy Tompe,
Lady Anniurzian Asquith, Lady Astonia
Pinter, Lady Arabella Stnart, the Hon
David Astor, CH, and Mrs Assur, the Hon
Sir Steved Runciman, CH, the Hon Emma
Tennant, Sir Matoyn, and the Hon Lady
Beckett, Lady Ayer, Sir Isalah Bertin, OM,
and Lady Berlin, Sir Alan and Lady
Bowness.

The Rev Professor Owen Chadwick, OM.



The crumbling turrets of Knebworth House which needs £12 million for its future upkeep

r Allied Arvarez, Mrs Charles Moore.
Mr Frank Tuoby, Mr Michael Horovitz,
ir John Dewe Mathews, Mr Michael
Dodin, Mr Andrew Motion, Dr Caroline
rigson, Mr Mark Amery, Miss Sophie Icks, Mr and Mrs John Rey, Mr Martin
nik, Mr Anthony Ellis, Mr John
nik, Mr Anthony Ellis, Mr John
crining, Mr Wayne Sleep, Mrs Shosha
uppy, Miss Galirielle Daye, Mr William
oppy: Chem. Mr John Stankilli Mr Toma

Mailer, Professor Kari Miller, Mr John Amls, Mrs Maureen Kermode, Miss Marien Remode, Miss Marien Remode, Miss Marien Remode, Mrs Humphrey Brooke, Mr Pener Ackroyd, Miss Hammi Lewis, Mr Adam Victor, Mr Richard Brain, Mr Max Nicholson, Mr Hugh Honour, Mr David Plant, Miss Luch Ellmann, Mr David Cory.

Elimand, Mr David Cory.

Mr Mauthew Evans (cisalrman, Faber and Faber) and Mrs Evans with Mr John Bodley (archivist), Ms Jounna Macide (publishing director) and other members of the company; Mrs Urauls Owen Jedhur and chief executive, Index on CersonShip, Ms Gwenta David (Viking, New York). Mss Elizabeth Fauerson (International FEM), Miss Josephine Paledin-Thompson (English Centre of International FEM, Miss Julia Abel-Smith (Eoyal Society of Liberature). MS Kate Pool (Society of Authors), Mr.
Anthony Howard sizo representing The
Timesi, Mr Geordie Greig (literary editor,
The Sanday Timesi, Mr John Coldstream
(books editor, The Daily Telegraph), Ms
Jan Dailey (literary editor, The
Independent on Sanday), Mr Peter Porbes
(editor, The Poetry Agriero), Mr John Ross
(editor, London Magazine), Mr Anthony
Smith (president, Magdalen College,
Cofford), Dr Heien Cooper (University
College, Oxford).

College, Oxford.

Mr John Bayner (Cresham's School). Mr Jercury Lewison (Tate Callery). Mr David Mitchinson Gienry Moore Foundation), Ms Erica Davies (Frend Museum). Mrs Helen McPhall (Wilfred Owen Association). Mr Stuart Hibberdine (The Byre Estate). Mr Shaart Hibberdine (The Byre Estate). Mr Margaret Quass (UNESCO). Mr David Les (representing the TUC), Mr P E Varea (Spanish Republican Associations).

Reception

Trinity College of Music To mark the 100th AGM of the incorporation of Trinity College of Music, the Chairman of the Board. Mr Paul Strang, held a reception vesterday at the College's new Academic Studies Centre and Library. A concert by the Trinity College of Music Sinfonia was held afterwards at St James's, Sussex Gardens, during which Honorary Fellowships were conferred by the former Chairman of Board, Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice, on Sir Michael Bishop. Mr John Davey, Ms Louise Honeyman, Ms Kathryn Mc-Dowell and Mr John Woolrich.

Dinners

Carlton Club

Lord Wakeham, Chairman of the Carlton Club, was the host last night at a dinner held at the club in honour of the ministers who have exceded the record for continuous service in office previously held by Loyd George. Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, MP, Sir Patrick Mayhew, QC, MP, Mr Antony Newton, MP, and Viscount Long were the principal guests.

Lord Mayor

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress gave a dinner last night at the Mansion House in honour of the Masters, Prime Wardens and Upper Bailiff of the Livery Com-panies of the City of London and their ladies. Some Members of the Court of Aldermen, the Sheriffs, the Chief Commoner and some members of the Court of Common Council and High Officers of the Corporation of London and their scorts also attended. The Lord Mayor, the Master of the Mercers' Company and the Master of the Grocers' Company were the speakers. Among others present were: Sir Peter Studd, Mrs Dermot Studd, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Porsmouth, Professor Sir Norman and Lady Browse, the Master Cutler in Hallamshire. Mr and Mrs John Gough, Dr and Mrs David Hughes and Major and Mrs Barneby Cockeroft.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.A. Anthony and Miss E.V.de St.H. Burn The engagement is announced between James Alan, elder son of Captain Alan Anthony, of Thailand, and Mrs Susan Anthony, of Shrewsbury, Shropshire, and Emma Valentine de St Hilaire, elder daughter of Dr and Mrs Loic Burn, of Richmond, Surrey.

Mr J.C.M. Atkinson and Miss A.C.R. Bloom The engagement is announced between Jonathon, younger son of the late Mr Colin Alkinson and of Mrs Shirley Alkinson, of Glaston-bury, Somerset, and Alice, second daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Blount, of Cley, Norfolk.

Mr J.A. Baker-Cresswell and Miss S.C. Merrett The engagement is announced between John. son of Mr and Mrs Charles Baker-Cresswell, of Bamburgh, Northumberland, and Sophie, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Merrett, of Kendal,

Mr C.R. Bennett and Miss Z.A. Campbell
The engagement is announced between Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Bennett, of Hanslope, Buckinghamshire, and Zephyrine, daughter of the Hon Robin Campbell, of Bough Beech, Kent, and the Hon Mrs Cecilia Campbell, of Fulham, London.

Mr M.A. Biddle and Lady Arabella Erskine The engagement is announced between Mark, younger son of Mr and Mrs Donald Biddle, of Milton on Stour, Dorset, and Arabella, younger daughter of the Earl and Countess of Buchan, of Newnham,

Mr N.D. Dudman and Miss K.J.N. Thwaites The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs Maurice Dudman, of Bristol, and Juliette, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Thwaites, of Hawkchurch, Devon.

Mr A.J. Fowler

and Miss C.A. Chilton The engagement is announced between John, son of the late Mr Fowler, of Bramham, Yorkshire, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Rodney Chilton, of Wakefield, Yorkshire.

and Miss C.M. Dibble The engagement is announced between Simon Lewis, son of the

late Mr and Mrs Michael Green, of Hendon, NW4, and Caroline Mary, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Dibble, of Farnham, Surrey. Mr J.C. Harries

and Miss V.M.K. Metters The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs T.J. Harries, of Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire. and Katharine, daughter of Dr and Mrs J.S. Metters, of Wimbledon, London, SW19.

Mr L.R. Horobin and Miss C. Spicer

The engagement is announced between Laurence, son of the late Mr Edward Horobin and of Mrs Marlene Horobin, of West Wickham, Kent, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Spicer, of Oxshort, Surrey,

The Hon BJ. Howard and Miss L.F. Kitson

The engagement is announced Inte engagement is aumounced between Barnaby Howard, of Orange Park, USA, and Linda Kitson, of Onslow Square, London. The marriage will take place later on this year in the USA. Mr M.A. Rok

and Miss A.K. Smith The engagement is announced between Mark, elder son of Dr and Mrs Donald Rolt, of Washington DC, and Alison, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Lionel Smith, of Fleet,

Mr R.W. Townsend and Miss L.M.C. Winterton The engagement is announced between Robert, son of Mr and Mrs Neil Townsend, of Narborough, Leicestershire, and Louisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Winterton, of Loddiswell, Devon.

Legal appointments

Mr John Francis Temple Baytiss has been appointed an Assistant Judge Advocate General.

Ms Mary Jane Stormont Mowat, Mr Anthony Robert Gall Scott-Gall and Mr Peter Reginald Cowell have been appointed Circuit Judges to the South Eastern Circuit.

Anniversaries

painter, Antwerp, 1599; William Pulteney, Earl of Bath, statesman, London, 1684; Edward Moore, writer, Abingdon, Berkshire, 1712; Adam Sedgwick, geologist and dalesman, Dent, Yorkshire, 1785; William I, King of Prussia 1861-88. German Emperor 1871-88, Berlin, 1797; Carl Rosa, founder of the opera company bearing his name, Hamburg, 1842; "Chico" Marx, actor and comedian, New York, 1891; Nicholas Monsarrat, novelist, Liverpool, 1910; Gerard

DEATHS: Jean-Baptiste Lully, composer, Paris, 1687: Jonathan Edwards, theologian, Princeton, 1758; John Canton, scientist, 1772; Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, poet, Weimar, Germany, 1832; Thomas Hughes, politican and author of Tom Brown's School-days, Brighton, 1896; Frederick William Farrar, writer of school stories and Dean of Canterbury

Because of a drought the American side of the Niagara Falls ran short of water, 1903.

The first cabs with taxi meters began operating in London, 1907. Dachau concentration camp, a former First World War munitions factory near Munich, was opened.

Cairo, 1945.

Birthdays today

BIRTHS: Sir Anthony Van Dyck, Hoffnung, artist, humorist and musician, Berlin, 1925.

1895-1903, Canterbury, 1903; Michael Todd, film magnate, killed in an air crash, New Mexico, 1958.

The Arab League was founded in

Lord Alport, 84; Miss Laraine Ash-ton, fashion models agent, 50; Mr George Benson, singer, 53; Mr R.A. Bethell, Lord-Lieutenant of Humberside, 74; Viscount Bolingbroke, 69; Mrs Betty Callaway, iceskating trainer, 68; Miss Sheila Cameron, QC, Vicar-General of the Province of Canterbury, 62: Air Marshal Sir Denis Crowley-Mill-ing, 7; Mr Philip Ely, fre er president, Law Society, 60, Mr Brian Hanrahan, broadcaster, 47; Mr D.C. Ingman, former chairman, British Waterways Board. 68; the Very Rev Lawrence Jackson, Provost Emeritus of Blackburn, 70: Professor Harry Kay. former Vice-Chancellor, Exeter iversity, 11: Sir Andrew Llow Webber, composer, 48; M Marcel Marceau, mime artist, 73: Mr Alan Opie, baritone, 51: Mr Alan G. Perrin, former governor, Reserve Bank of Malawi, 75; Mr C.S. Pick, publisher, 79; Sir Lynden Pindling, former Prime Minister of The Baharnas, 66; Sir Bryan Roberts, QC, 73; Mr Paul Schockemöhle, showjumper, 51; Mr William Shainer, actor, 65; Mr Stephen Sondheim, composer, 66; chairman. Council of Science and Technology Institutes, 71: Lord Stokes, 82: Mr Leslie Thomas, author, 65; Admiral Sir Richard Thomas, 64; Professor Sir Leslie Turnberg, president, Royal College of Physicians, 62; Miss Fanny Waterman, concert pianist and teacher, 76; Professor D. Watson, Director, Brighton University, 47; Miss Priscilla Yates, a former director, Royal Academy of Danc-

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if you, Lord, should know	
accounts of sine who could	BIDDING
Pold his ground? But with	BIRTHS
you is forgiveness so that you	
Page 130 : 3, 4 (REE)	HILDERKAND - On March
	Incohern) and Debert
ADOPTION	beautiful son, Thomas, a
	Hospital, to Lesley (née Jacobson) and Robert, a beautiful son, Thomas, a brother for Jenica, Nicholas and Katja.
MACKANESS - On 15th	[—— mage.
Match (horn 11th March) to	HUGHES - On March 18th
DELLAR, TODAS, to Sharen and	Amorella a heavellet
Mary, a son, George Robert.	daughter, Conson Storm
	Jevs.
	King's College Hospital,
BIRTHS	London, to Incy (nee
	London, to Lucy (nee Heston) and Michael, a son. Joseph Michael.
BARBE - On March 19th at	Joseph Michael.
The Portland Hospital, to	MALLINSON - On March 20th 1996, at Onean
Mojgan and Pierre, a daughter, Anghita, a sister for François and Pedram.	20th 1996, at Queen Charlette's and Chalesa
for François and Pedram.	Chariotte's and Chelsea Hospital, to Serena (née Everard) and Guy, a son, Jasper Miles Christopher.
BOTT - On 21st March, to	Everand and Guy, a son,
BOTT - On 21st March, to Carolyn (nie De Smith) and lan, a son. Theodore George,	Jesper Mules Christopher,
a brother to Alexander and	MELLA - On March 18th at The Portland Hospital, to Cally and Joe Mella a special
Oliver.	140 Portland Hospital, to
BROOKE - On March 20th	i and worderfor each i
1996, to Kamerice wife of Francia, a daughter.	Christopher Joseph.
	1996, to Katharine (née
of The Political Housitel, to	lette) and Andrew, a son.
AMERICA (Dice Katoo) sud	I MERCHAN JOHN
Raiph, a wonderful son. Harry George.	SATCHMENT - CHIEFER HALL
CROWFOOT - On 16th	
Manch to Comments of the	(nie Fowler) and Chris, a
Todman) and Rupert, 2	son. Charles Richard, a brother for James and
Todman, in Samanda (nee Todman) and Rupert, a daughter, Delay Alica, CBOW - On March 17th at	
The Portland Hospital, to	STRAKER - On March 17th 1996, to Kate (ner Murray- Philipson) and Nick, a daughter.
Yoko (nés Komazawa) and	Philipson) and Nick a
The Portland Respiral to Yoko (tale Komaniwa) and Nigel. a handsome son. Oliver Yunta. A strapping lad	daughter.
E 300 105.	daughter. STUBES - On Tuesday 19th March, at The Whitmone
THE COLUMN TO SERVICE AND ADDRESS OF THE COLUMN TWO IS NOT THE COL	March, at The Wishington
HAIGHT (RAG DEVICE) and	Anthony and Debbie, a sec.
Jonathan, a daughter. Susannah Rhimnon Alice.	Hospital, Highgate, to Anthony and Debbie, a son, Lawis Benjamin, a brother
FLANAGAN - On 28rd	for Ashing and Jake.
February at Solthuil	
Hospital, to Denise and	TATE A STATE OF
Eddle, a daughter, Ceri Louise, a sister for Rory.	DEATHS
SOLFAR - On 20th Marris of	AUGUS
GOLFAR - On 20th March at St John and St Elizabeth Hospital, to Patricia (née	AHERN - Sister Kate (Bernardine), Sister of St
Hospital, to Patricia (nee	Anne, former Matron 81
Carrington and James, a	Tares Uses I
Carrington) and James, a son, Mackellian Stuart, CORDON-MACLEOD - On	Wimbledon on Thesday, 19th March 1996, following
March 12th, to Advisome and	Lyur Ruch 1996, following
Devid, a sop. Alastair Etiott	prolonged linese. Requiem Mass Sacred Heart Church, Whalfedon, Tuesday 26th
Scott, a brother for Kirstina.	Wimbledon, Tuesday 26th
Surene and Nicholes.	March at 10 am. Family flowers only. Densitions if
HAYNES - On 6th March, to Liz and Peter, a son,	desired to St Tureso's Home
Thomas.	for the Elderly. Wimbiadon,
•	

DEATHS **DEATHS** BOURRE - The Reverend Michael. passed away suddenly at The Royal London Hospital on March 19th. Funwell Mass at All Saints Church, Popler, on Wednesday Merch 27th at 10.30 am. No flowers please. BUCKHAM - On March 20th. Andrew Arthur Maccae Buckhaen. aped 35 years. Biowend Immend of Rethern and a much loved Rather of Natasha. Funwell Services at New Alrestord Parish Church on Friday 29th March at 12 noon. Family flowers only. Enquiries and donations if destrud, in the Boyal Marvden Hospital (for Lymphonia Research) c/o Jno. Steel & Son. Cheeti House. Winchester (01962 844044). CHAPMAN - On 20th March Hopping Research (1962 844044). CHAPMAN - On 20th March Hopping (of the lafe Philip. dearest mother of William and denty loved sider of Elect. died after Illness bravely borne. Sadly missed by meny. Punscal at & James's Church, High Wych. at 12-20 pm Wednesdey 27th March Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Calacter Relief Macmillan Fund or St. James's Church Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Calacter Relief Macmillan Fund or St. James's Church C/o Daplel Roblinson. Funeral Directors. 3 subjects, Sawlynden, Sawlynden, March Family flowers (CLAYDON) - James Claydon. MA Fellow-Committer of St. CRAWFORD - On March
19th 1995, suddenly at
home, sped 79, Maurice
Theodore (Mcki) Brigader
R.A. (Retired). Beloved
husband of the late pam,
dearly loved and missed by
his sons Jeremy and Charles,
daughter-th-law Libby and
Alba, and grandchildren
Tom, Helen, Nick and High,
Funeral Service at
portchester Cremsfortum on
Thursday March 28th at
1.45 pm. Enquiries to
Edward White & Son, 5
South Pallant, Chichester
(01243 782186).
DUMWRLE - Elisen Florence
Lille (née Gibba) died on
19th March aged 79 years at
Bethum House, Newmaries,
Soffolk after a long libres. D - On 16th March at ''s College Hospital, fon, to Lucy (née on) and Michael, a son. oh Michael. JUSSON - On March 1996, at Queen riotte's and Chelsea National Chelsea and and Gay, a son, or Miles Christopher. 19th March aged 79 years at Schway House, Newmarket, Schway House, Stamber Green, on Thursday March 25th, Forther enquiries to J. Gortinge & Son Funeral Directors, 161: (01483) 416403. - On March 18th at ordand Hospital, to and Jos Mella a special wonderful son. oping Joseph. MER - On March 9th to Katharine (née and Andrew, a sol. Now John, Now L. - Ch March 5th Indials. Bithels, to Katy Fowler) and Chris, a Charles Richard, a her for James and Gorringe & Son Puneral Directors. Vei: (01483) 416403. Here., WE. (01279) 722476.
CLAYDON - James Claydon.
MA. Pellow-Commoner of St
Edmund's College.
Cambridge and for many
years on the staff of
Cambridge University
Listary, died in Cambridge
on 24th February 1996 aged
31 Years. A Memorial on 24th February 1996 aged 81 Years. A Memorial Service is to be held in the Chapel of St Edmund's Collège on Saturday 27th April at 250 pm.

CLOUSTON - Mary, widow of Dr. Gordon Clouston, died peacefully at home on Weinesday March 20th after a long eliness. Supported by loving friends in the surroundings and community they both served. Funeral at Vinters Park Crematorium, Bearsted Road, Maidstone, on Thursday March 28th at 1998.

DEATHS MisoGRESOR - Diana Evelyn (née Uniacka) on March 19th beloved mother of lain and Robin, pescrituly in Odinam Cottage Hospital. Puneral Service at Aldershot Cremetorium on Monday 28th March et 11 am. Family Sovers only. Donations, it desired, to Odinam Cottage Hospital c/o Alexander & Dry. 1 Seal Road, Raingardes, RG21 7NQ.

MACKENZIE - On 19th March peacefully in hospital Edwin Arnold, aged 76, beloved Bushand of Mary, loving father and grandfather, former Technical Director of London & Oversens Preighbus Ltd. Sarvice at All Saints Chauch, Blackmath, London SEZ fon the heath) on Tuesday 26th March at 10.30 art, followed by private cremation, Family Rowers only but donation, it desired, to Shipwrecked Pithermen & Marinetts' Royal Bestevolant Society C/o F. Chappall, Funeral Directors, A Lee High Road, Lawisham, London SELS.

McMELE - Aim William, on 20th March peacefully in hospital in Oxford. Adored husband of the lass Unata, loving Juher of Repert and 28th, and much loved father-in-law of Di and Mick, and Papa to his nine stundchildren. Cremation private. Service of Thunkinglying at Hoty Trinity Cwarts. Heatington Quarry, Oxford. Enguiries to Pimeraj Directors A.W. Eruca tel; (01866) 310907.

MUSTON - Philip Valentine on 16th March, beloved husband of Patrick, Inher of Robert and grandintes of Dominic and Alexandra, Requires March, Ham, on Wednesday 27th March 10am, Private cremation to follow at Mortiake Crematorium, Family flowers only. Donations if desired to the British Fleuri Pousdation.

DEATHS PITT - Honora Pit Gloner Favening deal soldenty and peacefully on Mothering Sunday. Lately Warder of Braziers Park School of Interest Park School of Interest Perk Social Research, Beden, Come. Deeply missed by Alan. Catherine. Candida. grandchildren. and an annumbered network of Fiends old and new who, with researc, counted on her. Funeral Service at Ipsdess Parish Church. Monday March 26th, 12.30 pm. Family and all who feel close to Honor. No wearing of black no Howers, by order! Quiet consumnation have

SCHNEIDER - On March 20th, and 94, pescentily at home after a long filmess borne with dignity. Ruth, widow of Richard. Dearly loved mother of Irane and the late Louis and grandmother of Jimmay. Funeral Service at the Liberal Jowish Comebay., Pound Late, on Sunday., March 24th at 12 acoa... Family flowers only. Consticus in her memory to

SLAWINSSIC - Roman Martin, died peacefully on 16th March. Dearity loved harbond of Anna Kosteka-beloved farmer of Monika and Julian, adored son of Helena and charished colleague of those at BMF. Funeral Service at St Andrew Boboth's Polish Caurch. 1. Leysfield Road. W12 at 11,20 am. Wednesday 27th March. Parsily flowers only. Departies, if desfred, to Polish Social and Cultural Association. 238-246 King Street. W5. **SLAWINSKI** - Roman Marti

STRONG - On March 20th Nicholm Ežot, son of Sara and Tony, suddanly at home aged 5 months, 60 tinch

DEATHS WESTROP - Elleen Mona Manyard Georgi), on 18th Manyard Georgi), on 18th Manyard Georgi), on 18th Manyard Georgi, on 18th Manyard Georgia in the devoted care of The Santa Maria Nursing Home, Tunkridge Wells, aged 95. Widow of Brigadjer S.A. Westrop C.B.E., D.S.O., M.C. and loved mother, grandmother and greatgrandmother and greatgrandmother and greatgrandmother. Private Grandian, Family Stowers only. Donations if desired for Statisticy Church, payable to P.C.C. B.S.A. Group (St. Cultherth C./o. D. Donget. That Lodge. Aisthorpe. Lincoln. Thanksgiving Service at St. Cultherth Gruych, Brattley, Lincoln. on Thursday April 11th at 2.50 pm.

WOOLVENDOR - Gladys on 16th March peacetully aged 97. Thankugiving Service at 81 Lawrence Church, Warchester on Friday 29th March at 11.45 am. Exquiries to Juc Steel and 80m. Tet (01962) 844Q44. ZORZA - Victor died beacafully in London on March 20th. Loved by his family in England, USA and Pohnd, and celebrated for his life. Contributions to continue his work should be sent to The British Rungim Hospice Society. 279 hydric Road, London. SE15 SXZ.

> MEMORIAL SERVICES GORDON - The Memoria Service for Alexant Gordon SCHOOL - The present as Service for Almania Gordon will be held at Papplewick. Ascot, on Saturday May 4th at 11.30 em. Those wishing to attend bindly inform The Secretary. Papplev Ascot. SLS 7LH.

MORRELL - A Memorial MORELL - A Memorial Concert to remember the His and Work of Doughs Morrell will lake place at the Wigmore Hall. Wigmore Street, London Wi. on Thursday 2nd May commencing at 10.30 am. All frends and collection are welcome. Please apply for Ecosts from Letty Collins (01344) 481222 by 15th April.

L WILLIAM I

IN MEMORIAM -CHADWICK - Major Henry Plets Chedwick killed while serving with the Greek Howards, Never forgotten. Ema (Alma), Patricia, Adrian, Jason and Barbera. FOR SALE FOR SALE CRE Raval program from the Consus Coronation. 1982. Consus Coronation. 1982. Consus Constitut. Plants contact by mail beyone. Office and Enciption. Douglas Scienter, P.O. Sec. 35051, Whitshorse Yukon. Canada YIA SYS.

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OBITUARIES

Victor Zorza, Kremlinologist, died on March 20 aged 70. He was born on October 19, 1925.

VICTOR ZORZA enjoyed an international reputation, from the 1950s to the 1970s, as the most imaginative analyst of Soviet policy. He wrote first for The Guardian, later in America for The Washington Post, and had the distinction of correctly predicting, among other landmarks of Soviet history, the breakdown in Soviet relationships with China and the invasion of Czechoslovakia.

His ambition to work on The Manchester Guardian (as it used to be) sprang from his spell with the Polish Air Force during the Second World War. Improbably, he was based somewhere in the Middle East, but managed occasionally to read the weekly edition. After the war, however, he discovered that the newspaper did not see the need for a full-time Kremlinologist, so he worked instead for the BBC monitoring service at Fayersham.

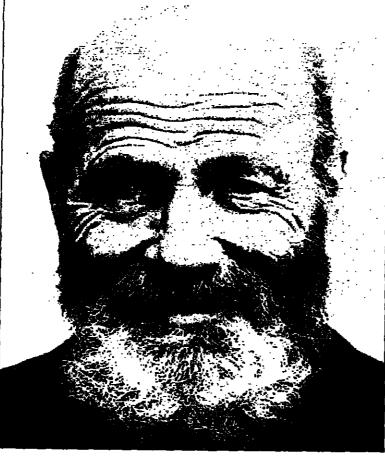
This was a long way from Zorza's childhood in eastern Poland. He was born into a family of Polish Jews, and when Poland was invaded in 1939 fled to the Soviet Union. He was anxious about what had become of his family and returned to search for them. Immediately he was picked up, deported to Siberia, and after many adventures, escaped to Britain to join the exited Polish Air Force in 1942.

After the war he attempted again to trace his relations, but after much searching had to conclude that no one in his extended family had survived. He became obsessed with the enormous sum of human misery caused by wars, and with the onset of a cooler relationship between the East and West, read voraciously anything he could on the Soviet Union. He joined the BBC's Foreign Service, monitoring its Soviet broadcasts, and bombarded The Manchester Guardian with articles on the subject. He married Rosemary, a colleague at the BBC, in 1949.

Zorza's professional fortunes changed dramatically in 1953 on the night that Stalin died. The Manchester Guardian found that it had no obituary. He wrote a monumental piece and thenceforth became the paper's resident Kremlinologist. In 1956 he was taken onto the staff of the paper. His consuming interest in his subject was matched by a vigorous command of English which it was hard to believe had been attained at a Polish secondary school.

He settled down to many years of watching the Soviet political scene. He scored a particular success with his

VICTOR ZORZA



perceptive articles on the deteriorating relationship between Moscow and Peking in 1957. The quoted evidence usually seemed of the filmsiest: the omission of China from a Kremlin listing of brothers-in-arms, the careful parsing of sentences from articles in Pravda that could be read as reflecting pique with Peking. This was just the sort of minute detail that other observers would miss, or be at a loss as to how to interpret.

To some colleagues, Zorza's Kremlinology seemed to rest on the endless identification of dogs that did not bark. His defence of his methods was robust: "You simply do not understand. I tell you that I'm right." And by the early 1960s he was proved to be so.

He was one of the few observers to foresee the Soviet invasion of Czecho-slovakia in 1968. The Soviet authorities had taken the strongest exception to Zorza's reporting in the build-up to this, particularly to an article emitted "The Czech regime is in danger". A retaliatory article in Izvestia claimed that Zorza had entirely misrepresented the situation and described him as "striving by means of sundry forgeries

and fabrications to rupture the bonds of friendship and brotherhood between the USSR and Czechoslovakia". The paper also claimed that Zorza had been a Soviet agent since 1957 but — in a cut which Zorza found particularly unkind — they found that he had always worked "quite negligently".

By then Zorza was practising his

craft from a rustic cottage near Burnham Beeches. The Guardian (as it became in 1959) provided a Slavspeaking assistant and Zorza filled the cottage with filing boxes crammed with newspaper cuttings in Cyrillic script. From the outset he regarded any truncation of his copy as an attack on his personal integrity. Colleagues suggested that he should rid himself of this sense of injustice by writing books as well as journalism. But Zorza was a writer who saw text only in 1,000-word chunks. Along with other writers, he became more discontented still when some of the consequences of The Guardian's move to London in the early 1960s became apparent.

In 1971 he left Britain and joined the staff of *The Washington Post*. He avoided briefings and Washington lunches, spending his days, as before, prowling through stacks of Sovier bloc newspapers. Again, this painstaking approach yielded impressive results, and his column became required reading in the White House.

Then came a personal tragedy for Zorza. In 1977 his daughter Jane contracted a melanoma on the sole of her foot. Zorza and his wife returned to Britain and, in a distressingly short time, watched their daughter die in a hospice. The care which was provided impressed Zorza enormously and he was moved to write a book about Jane's death, not only as a form of catharsis, but in order to promote the growth of the hospice movement. A Way to Die was published in 1979, but before it had been published, Zorza had to undergo a heart bypass operation and was informed that he himself probably had

only a year to live.

This galvanised him into the next stage of his career. Ever since a trip to India which he had made with his daughter, Zorza had been planning to return and to write about the problems facing the rural poor in the Third World. As soon as he was able, he did so and, from 1981, lived mostly in a mud-and-stone hut in the Himalayas.

He produced a weekly column for The Times on local life which, for the first time, attempted to provide Western readers with an unsentimental, vigorous account of villagers' lives. Peasant life did not change him much. He set about collaring the great, the good and the famous of the locality with all the zeal of a cub reporter hunting for a story.

In 1989 he was returning home, as he did quite regularly, and decided to do so via Moscow. While he was there his old interest in the hospice movement was reawakened, when the terrible plight of the terminally ill in that country was brought to his attention. He was appalled by what he saw and determined to do what he could for the Russian people during his last years (he was still fighting heart disease). He set up the British Russian Hospice Society, a task for which he was particularly suited by his knowledge of the way Russian bureaucracy worked, and sent out teams of British nurses to train their Russian counterparts. The first Russian hospice was opened in St Petersburg, and another is soon to follow in Moscow.

Two years ago Victor Zorza disovered that his sister had survived the Holocaust and that for more than fifty years had been searching for her lost family. They were reunited in 1994. She survives him, as do his son and his companion for the last two years, Eileen. His marriage ended in divorce in 1992.

RENÉ CLÉMENT

PROFESSOR SIR GRANVILLE BEYNON

Professor Sir Granville Beynon. FRS. physicist, died on March II aged 81. He was born on May 24.

A DISTINGUISHED physicist. Granville Beynon made notable contributions to studies of radio propagation and the ionosphere. He published some 60 papers and edited numerous volumes on the subject. His original work included one of the earliest measurements of motions in the F region - the region of the ionosphere where radio waves are reflected - and, with a colleague, A. H. Shapley, the first demonstration that a strange anomalously high absorption of radio waves in winter was related to abnormal warmings in the stratosphere.

Beynon was quick to recognise the potential of develoning experimental techniques. This led him to be early in the field with observations of radio signals from artificial satellites. He carried out pioneering rocket experiments to determine the height distribution of electron density in the lower ionosphere. He was also one of the first to appreciate the versatility of the incoherent scatter technique - a technique whereby use is made of radio signals scattered by electrons.

In this context, Beynon was the prime mover in the development of the European Incoherent Scatter Facility (EISCAT), the most advanced incoherent scatter system in the world, situated in Scandanavia, for high latitude studies. He provided the main thrust in establishing a national radar facility at Aberystwyth to investigate small-scale movements in the middle atmosphere at temperate latitudes.

William John Granville

Beynon was born at Dunvant, near Swansea, and educated locally, first at what was then Gowerton Grammar School and then at the University College of Wales, Aberystwyth. After the award of a PhD there, he joined the scientific staff of the radio



division of the National Physical Laboratory, Slough, in 1937, where he became the principal assistant to Professor (later Sir) Edward Appleton. This set the scene for Beynon's future direction of research, and started a collaboration which continued until Appleton's death in 1965.

Beynon returned to the University of Wales in 1946, where he remained for the rest of his working life, holding first a lectureship in physics and later, from 1958, the Chair of Physics at Aberystwyth. He retired in 1981.

In parallel with his research, Beynon increasingly applied his considerable administrative ability to international co-operation in science. He was heavily involved with the International Geophysical Year, a major geophysical enterprise over the sunspot maximum period, 1957-58, and even more with its sister programme called the International Quiet Sun Years over the sunspot minimum period, 1964-65, for which he was president of the organising committee.

Beynon was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1973 and served as chairman or member of several of its committees. For his services to science and education he received many honours and awards, including the Goddard Prize of the National Space Club of America and the Chree Medal of the Institute of Physics. He was appointed CBE in 1959 and was knighted in 1976.

Outside his work, he had a lifelong passion for classical music (especially that of Bach) and was himself an accomplished violin player. He was an energetic gardener, a wiley opponent in a game of snooker and an accomplished and amusing teller of stories.

Granville Regions is sur-

Granville Beynon is survived by his wife Megan, and by their daughter and two

Greenwood and Valerie Hob-

son, all of whom fall prey to

practised continental

After this peak most of

Clément's subsequent career

René Clèment, French film director, died on March 17 aged 82. He was born on March 18, 1913.

RENÉ CLÉMENT's career as a film director took a long time to get started, enjoyed an intense but brief flowering. and then went into a long. wilting decline. Even at his most brilliant, he belonged to the senior school of Marcel Carne, the sort of film-maker who could do a highly professional job with a good, literate script and a capable cast. But never quite - in the eyes of the Young Turks of cahiers du cinéma at least - did he make it into that inner circle of recognised auteurs, every one of whose works became automatically an expression of their own personal aesthetic and philosophy.

Unfortunately, during Clement's heyday and for some years afterwards, cahiers du cinéma were the final arbiters in France of which film-makers were intellectually in, and which were out. Consequently, no sooner had Clement impressed the world with Les Jeux interdits (1952). than the type of film which he represented dropped from fashionable regard and was relegated instead, with varying degrees of patronage or hostility, to the ranks of the stodgy, boring "cinéma de

papa".
In addition. Jeux interdits, a story of children against a background of war, had somehow offended the French Government. It was rejected by the Cannes Film Festival and there was quite a fight before it could be shown at all. On the

other hand, it won the Golden Lion at the Venice Festival that year, and was given the Oscar as best foreign film in 1953, thus laying the foundations of Clement's international reputation.

Much of the rest of his filmmaking was done in the dangerous sphere of international coproduction, and sometimes suffered from the compromises and indecisions of the genre. Arguably he would have worked more comfortably, and put a more personal mark on his films, if he had remained more within the French cinema.

Certainly those of his works which have survived best are the most completely French, and the non-French elements are generally the weakest. In Gervaise (1956), for instance, a version of Zola's searing novel

L'Assommoir, what still impresses is the meticulous recreation of working-class Paris in the 1850s. But Maria Schell's sentimental performance in the title role has faded terribly (though at the time it won her the best actress award at the Venice Festival and a Hollywood contract). Barrage contre le Pacifique (The Sea Wall, 1958) was the first filming of a Marguerite Duras novel and was visually

its multilingual cast.

At least in its beginnings Clément's film-making could hardly have been more French. Born in Bordeaux, he originally set out to be an architect, studying at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, but had already started to make amateur shorts when he was 18.

and atmospherically impres-

sive. but finally fell victim to

When he was 20 his father died, and realising that he could not afford to continue with his architectural studies, he went into the cinema instead working, as opportunity offered, as a writer, cameraman and assistant director.

In 1936 he directed the

young Jacques Tati in a comedy short, Soigne ton gauche. His political documentary L'Arabie interdite, made the next year, got him into all sorts of trouble, including being arrested three times. During the war he continued to make shorts, one of which, Ceux du rail (1942), prepared the way for his first feature film, La Bataille du rail (1946). This was a semi-documentary drama about the Resistance, using mainly non-professional actors, which placed him alongside the new Italian Neo-Realists rather than anyone else then working in France. At about this time Clément was the founder, with the

cameraman Henri Alekin and the screenwriter (later director) Colette Audry, of a cinema club which evolved into the immensely influential IDHEC film school. After working as technical director with Cocteau on La Belle et la bête and Noel-Noel on Le Père tranquille (another story of the Resistance), in 1947 he made his first mainstream fiction film, Les Maudits (The Damned), set entirely on board a German submarine. Next he made Au delà des grilles, starring Jean Gabin and Isa Miranda, a love story set in Genoa for which Clément won the best director award at Cannes, Miranda



the best actress award, and the film an Oscar for best foreign

Then in 1952 came Jeux interdits, and Clément was for the moment the most féted French director worldwide. He followed that with a film which had very little success at the time, but in retrospect

looks more and more like his masterpiece. Knave of Hearts (Monsieur Ripois), an Anglo-French coproduction starring Gerard Philippe as a young Frenchman in London, was a black comedy which showed off the beauty of London and the attractions of such elegant

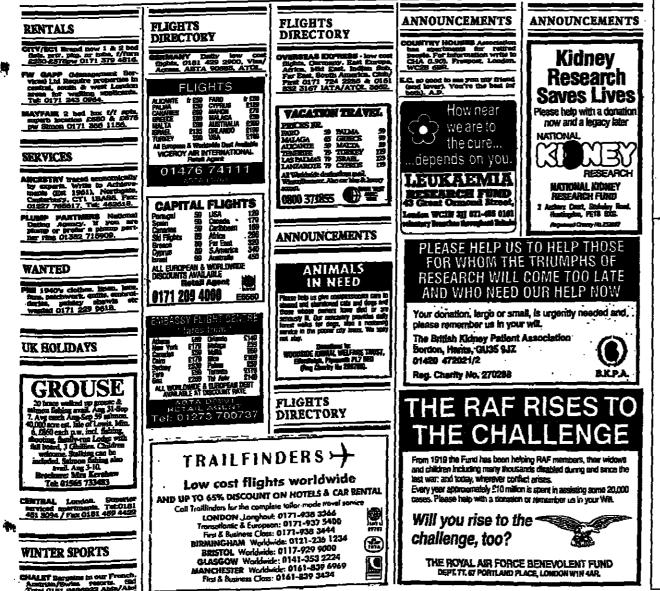
English actresses as Joan

was a steady decline. His most famous later film was the three-hour French/American coproduction Is Paris Burning? (1966), a last return to the subject of the Resistance and the liberation of Paris, in which a nugget of grainy truth was swallowed in all-star casting and glossy production values. Probably his best later film was Plein soleil (Purple Noon, 1959), an adaptation of an ambiguous and decadent

values. Probably his best later film was Plein soleil (Purple Noon, 1959), an adaptation of an ambiguous and decadent Patricia Highsmith novel in which Alain Delon was expertly cast as the charming, murderous hero, and Clément experimented mildly in New Wave techniques like the jump-cut. After La Baby-Sitter in 1975 Clément retired from film-making, content (or fairly content) to assume the role of elder statesman. In 1984 he received an honorary César (the French equivalent of the Oscar) as a

honorary Cesar (the French equivalent of the Oscar) as a ifetime achievement award. Though his work has long been out of fashion, and to a large extent unseen, a recent reappearance of Jeux interdits left younger generations vociferously demanding where this great film had been kept hidden all their lives. Though many of his films will no doubt remain in the shadows, it is hard to imagine that his three or four best works will not reassume their place in the pantheon, just as the long unfashionable films of Marcel Carné have done.

PERSONAL COLUMN



THE FAMINE IN RUSSIA

The Society of Friends of Russian Freedom have sent out an appeal for help on behalf of the sufferers from the famine which prevails at present in the region of the Volga. The following are extracts from their appeal:- Ten provinces - Kazan, Vyatka, Oufa, Simbirsk. Samara, Saratov, Perm. Toula, Tambov. and RYazan - ie., a territory covering thousands of square miles in the region of the river Volga, and partly in the centre of the Empire, are suffering from a worse failure of crops than any of the oldest inhabitants can remember. Not only have the spring and winter sowings of grain perished in most of the localities, but also vegetables and grass. Last year 35 millions of roubles were assigned by the Government for supplying the famishing population with seed, bread and fodder, but even at that time the needs of only six of the above-mentioned provinces were officially estimated at the same figure, so that four provinces were practically left unprovided for. Since

ON THIS DAY

March 22, 1899

It was probably not the first, and certainly not the last, Russian famine. In some places starving people had sold even their clothing and household goods to buy food

then the needs of the population have increased. Moreover, it must be clearly understood that official allowances of 35lb. of grain per month are given only to non-adults from two to 18, and to adults from 55 years of age, while, as a matter of fact, people of all ages are equally starving. The Red Cross Society, a semi-official benevolent institution, which is now organizing help for the famished peasantry, admits that at least 25 per cent of all the sufferers have no prospect of getting any official assistance, and

must either be maintained by private charity or die. Scurvy and typhus have already broken out in the Kazan, Samara, Oufa, and Voronezh provinces, while the children, deprived of milk through the loss of cattle and of wholesome bread, are dying at a fearful rate simply from exhaustion. Death. however, seems in only too many cases to be a welcome relief from a long series of every day, every minute, suffering. A member of the sanitary and medical staff sent by the Red Cross writes from the Kazan province: "The food of the population consists of a mixture which was formerly used as fodder for horses, but of which the population are now baking 'bread' for themselves. Leaves of raspberry bushes are being boiled like tea, and this decoction, unwholesome in every way, is being consumed with avidity." According to the same source of information, all that could be turned into money has been sold, so that the same gown is being worn for six months without change, without linen or

NEWS

Countries ban British beef imports

■ Britain was in confrontation with its leading European partners after France, Belgium and the Netherlands halted imports of British beef and Germany called for a continentwide ban.

At the same time, councils across Britain removed beef from the menus of schools and old people's homes in the light of new evidence linking "mad cow" disease and a human brain ...Page 1, 4, 5, 18, 19

Major announces firearms amnesty

A nationwide firearms amnesty will be held within the next three months after the massacre of 16 schoolchildren and a teacher in Dunblane, the Prime Minister said. At the same time the terms of reference were announced for the official inquiry into the Scottish killings...

Uister boycott off

John Major cleared a crucial hurdle in the search for peace in Northern Ireland when Irish politicians backed away from a threatened boycott of elections in the Province...

Pilots cleared

The two pilots of the RAF Chinook helicopter that crashed into the Mull of Kintyre killing 25 anti-terrorist specialists cannot be blamed for the tragedy, a second inquiry ruledPage 2

Inventor loses

A wealthy German inventor's attempt to prove that he invented the personal stereo will cost the British taxpayer £500,000 after his claim, funded by legal aid, was thrown out by the Court of

Too few lessons

Sixth-formers should spend almost twice as long in the classroom to try to match continental teenagers' achievements, the Labour Party saidPage 6

£50,000 award

A Pakistani-born nurse has won £50,000 from an NHS Trust over allegations that she was the victim of racial discrimination and

Sex bias row

A garage which runs car-safety classes for women only was told it was breaking the law by exclud-....Page 9

Challenge for Mi5

Dame Stella Rimington hands over her post as director-general of MI5 to her successor next week as the renewed IRA bombing campaign poses a grave .. Page 10 challenge...

Crime falls again

Recorded crime in England and Wales fell by about 2 per cent last year - the third successive drop - boosting the Government's claim to be curbing criminal behaviour Page 10

Wetland ruling

Britain acted illegally by letting part of a wildlife haven be concreted for a car park, according to a landmark European Court of Justice ruling....Page (i Activists in Taipei

Two men said by Peking to be

"Black Hands" behind the Tiananmen Square uprising were in Taipei watching presidential election preparations Page 13

Lebanon border alert

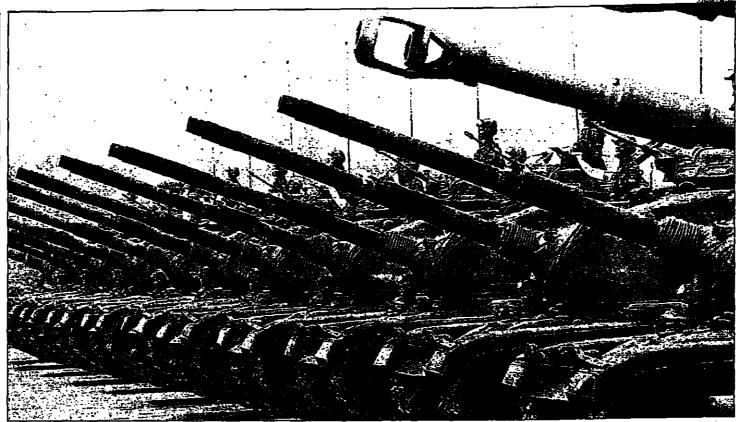
A state of alert was declared in Jewish towns and settlements along the Lebanon border as pro-Iranian guerrilla leaders threatened rocket attacks against

US defence gap

Bob Dole accused President Clinton of neglecting security as the Republicans unveiled legislation to develop a US defence against ballistic missiles Page 15

Pigeon fanciers get the bird

■ Britain's 80.000 pigeon fanciers — a group that includes the Queen — were told their great passion is not a sport. The VATman has decided that because the bird does all the work pigeon-racing is merely a hobby, not qualifying for a sports tax exemption. Fanciers meet in two weeks' time to decide whether I to the European Court



Taiwan Army displays its American-made M60A3 tanks yesterday during a show of military strength at Lin Kou, west of Taipei

Water wars: A bid war for South West Water was triggered when Severn Trent moved to buy the company, which already has a proposal from Wessex Water on its way to the Monopolies and Mergers CommissionPage 23

Economy: Cheaper mortgages helped Britain's headline inflation rate to fall to its lowest level for 15 months in February......Page 23 Mixed spirits: Guinness struck a note of caution as it unveiled a 4 per cent decline in 1995 profits to Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose

..Page 23 12.9 to 3,698.3. Sterling's tradeweighted index was unchanged at \$4.0 after climbing from \$1.5363 to \$1.5372 and from DM2.2696 to

...Page 26

Aintree

SPORT Cricket: David Graveney was con-

firmed as a rival to Raymond Illingworth to be chairman of the England selectors Page 44 Football: Garry Flitcroft, the Manchester City and England under-21 midfield player, is set to sign for Blackburn Rovers today for £3.5 million..... Page 44

Rugby League is bringing a court action to prevent Maurice Lindsay from playing any further part in the setting up of a rebel Global League competitionPage 39 Racing: The Lincoln meeting, which spluttered into life at a chilly and mist-shrouded Doncaster, could soon be staged in April after the Grand National at

Rugby league: The Australian

Hell of an evening: Richard O'Brien's show, an evocation of a rock-

ARTS

music hell called Disgracefully Yours, has none of the fresh appeal of The Rocky Horror Show, says Benedict Nightingale......Page 33 Veteran's premiere: At the age of 82 the composer George Lloyd conducted the premiere of his new choral work, A Litany, at the Festival Hall...

Rise of Nusrat: From local hero in Pakistan to world-music superstar, supplying soundtrack songs for Hollywood's biggest films, Nusrat Fatch Ali Khan has had a spectacu-

Pop on Friday: David Sinclair on albums from Mark Knopfler and Underworld: Caitlin Moran on the Page 41 | hippy lyrics of Cast Page 34, 35

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

STRONG WOMEN

powerful women in the

world? Find out in the

■ SINGLE WOMEN

Lynne Truss on un-

married bliss and the

unsurprising rise of

Magazine

Who are the 25 most

Captains of Industry: Julia Llewellyn Smith profiles George Simpson, GEC's new head, among

EDUCATION Pupils' progress: John O'Leary introduces The Times guide to national curriculum testsPage 36

FEATURES

Rare showing: Imperial Chinese

treasures have been allowed out

of Taiwan for a New York

Valerie Grove interviews Jennifer

Longford, thought to be Lloyd

George's love child Page 17

investors' darlings Page 17

Student movement: The NUS is a breeding ground for would-be Labour MPs..Page 36

WANGENER! Special report: From canteen to

computer room, from switchboard to stationery cupboard - all you need to know about facilities management is in today's colour guide

THEPAPERS

As with Chirac's earlier announcement of a French professional army, Bonn was not consulted on the idea of a "European army". Alain Juppé has withdrawn the proposal. Even so, the emphasis on the West European Union has raised the question of whether France is really seeking a WEU military structure alongside that of

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Bach and Blur are put to the IQ test. Tomorrow's World -Megalab 96 (BBC1, 7.30pm). Review: Lynne Truss leaps to the defence of Joy

OPINION

A happy hybrid

Adamson

The best response to terror is a determination by democrats not to weaken, but to learn to work together

Exchan

clears

way for

trading

revolutio

Politician and the cow

The Ministry of Agriculture has itself been too long too influenced by the food producers. The independent voice of consumers has been too weak

The pigeon has landed British pigeon racers: take your case to pigeon-loving Brussels. Unite! You have nothing to lose but

COLUMNS

PETER RIDDELL

The only point that really matters about Northern Ireland politics is that all-party talks will start on Monday, June 10, and that Sinn Fein will be allowed to participate only if the IRA restores its ceasefire. Everything else is secondary. Yesterday's statement by the Prime Minister on the method of elections to be held on May 30 is a further manoeuvre to achieve this end

BERNARD LEVIN

Does Mrs Mills feel ashamed at what Amnesty has dug up while she was taking tea in Peking with

MAGNUS LINKLATER

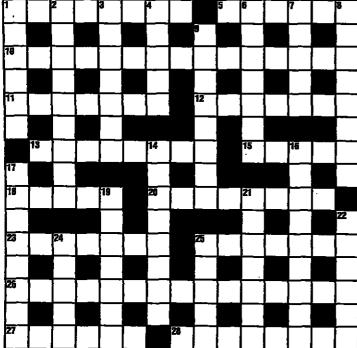
The whole BSE saga has been shrouded in the kind of secrecy that characterises so much government policy. There has been a suspicion of those who challenge the orthodox view and an unwillingness to discuss the ... Pages 18

DBIOLANIES

Victor Zorza, Kremlinologist; Professor Sir Granville Beynon, physicist: René Clément. film director. .. Page 21

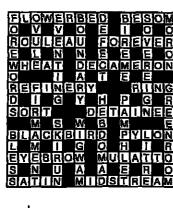
Dangers of BSE link with humans: how no-fault divorces have operated in America; unrest in Bahrain; the English

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,122



- ACROSS
- I Almost getting agreement about drink (8).
- 5 Pretty semi-detached wonderful little house (6). 10 Description of women in demographic data (5,10).
- 11 American animal taking credit for origin of litter (7).
- 12 Big charity show's over, having put out hard message (7). I3 A fish repeatedly extracted food
- ingredient from seaweed (4-4). 15 Invigorating air I found beyond Australia (5).
- 18 Farming concern removing head of local office (5). 20 Ring's mainly involved with
- power of gods (8).
- 23 It's loud talk about that, do (7). 25 Quiet part of Spain is ideal (7).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,121



- 26 I treat one in team differently she lost her head in public (5,10). 27 Sampling bouquet to find what's
- wrong in drink (6). 28 Poet one's seen getting out of nice carriage (8).

DOWN

- I Wintertime hazard for driver who's a learner? (6).
- 2 Relatively old, but managing (7.2). 3 Satellite dish rattles (7).
- 4 Table showing some seasonal tariffs (5).
- 6 Foreign food upset emperor and knight (7).
- 7 Ruffle father badly (5).
- 8 Best man in love? On the contrary. infatuated (8). 9 Fish isn't changing colour across
- the Atlantic (8). 14 Governor General carries bird
- home rejoicing (8). 16 Primate wants an organ designed
- to hold a note (5-4). 17 He's beginning to study freerange farm hens (8).
- 19 Person over the hill was made perfect (3-4).
- 21 Team-mate runs to catch up (7). 22 Another building appropriate to the east (6).
- 24 Raised starting price routine for oil in short supply (5). 25 Cruise beginning in Peru - take a
 - boat over lake (5).

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Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (chear rate) and 49p per minute at all other times AA ROADWATCH

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FORECAST ☐ General: low pressure over southern England, fronts approach ing the southwest later. England and Wales will have mist and fog at first and a lot of cloud overall, but some bright intervals may develop in northwestern parts. Rain will spread across the South West in

the afternoon. Top temperatures will be near normal, the north milder than recently. Scotland and Northern Ireland will be mostly cloudy, with some patchy rain or drizzle, but the north and northwest may be brighter at times. A little sleet or snow is likely over the mountains, and south-easterly winds will keep tem-

peratures somewhat below normal. ☐ London, SE England, E Anglia, Midlands, N Wales, NW England, Isle of Man, Central N England: mostly cloudy but mainly dry after early mist and fog. Wind

☐ Central S England, Channel isles, SW England, S Wales: misty start, rain from southwest later. Wind southeast light becoming moderate. Max 11C (52F). ☐ E England, Lake District, NE England, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyli, N ireland: mostly cloudy, some drizzle in places. Wind southeast mainly moderate. Max 8C (46F).

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Central Dundee, Aberdeen, Cerman Highlands, Moray Firth: mostly cloudy with some patchy drizzle, sleet or snow on hills. Wind east or southeas 7C (45F). ast light or moderate. Max

☐ NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: mainly cloudy with a few isolated showers. Wind southeast moderate or fresh. Max 6C (43F).

Outlook mainly dry, warmer in the south. Some rain in the north,

east or southeast light. Max 11C snow on mountains. AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

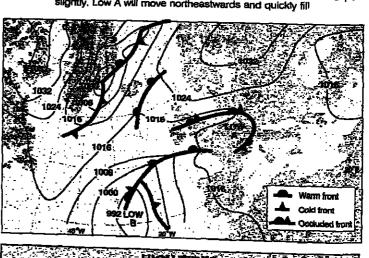
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ABROAD Rhyadh Rome S Frisco Seoux Sing por Strictorm Strasbing Sydney Tangler Tel Aviv Tenerile Geneva Glorelta Helsinki Hong K Irastor

Sunny Sunny intervals

Cloudy **Drizzle** Overcast Rain Sunny shower Sleet and sunny showers 😓 Lightning Snow 13 Temperati (Celsius) Wind spee

Changes to the chart below from noon: low B will track northwards and deepen



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ARTS 33-35

Richard O'Brien invites audiences to join him in Hell



EDUCATION 36

Jack Straw and a fiery baptism in politics



SPORT 39-44

Hastings looking to play for more than kicks

HOW EFFICIENT IS YOUR COMPANY?

Facilities Management: 24 page pullout today

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

FRIDAY MARCH 22 1996

Exchange clears way for trading revolution

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE warring factions at the London Stock Exchange yesterday buried their differences and confirmed plans to introduce the most radical changes to the way shares are bought and sold since Big Bang in 1986. The board of the Ex-

Υľ

change said it had accepted a proposal from one of its steering committees to introduce a public limit order book in the FT-SE 100 stocks. The new electronic order-matching service, which will eliminate the spread between the buy and sell price for shares, could be extended to other stocks listed on the London Exchange if the initial pilot scheme proves successful.

The Stock Exchange said last night that the interests of private investors, as well as the major professional market players, would be safeguarded. Before the new system can be introduced, however, an extensive consultation exercise will have to be undertaken with market users and the various watchdogs that oversee City regulation.

The Exchange's board announced that there will be a second round of consultation beginning in May and timed to end in June. Spring 1997 is the earliest possible date pencilled in for introduction of the new order matching

service. Leading retail stockbrokers vesterday expressed reservations about the new system. Justin Urquhart Stewart, a director of Barclays Stockbrokers, said it would be unfortunate if brokers were caught out because they were trying to provide the best service for customers while trying to satisfy the new demands imposed on them by regulators. He also called for an "extensive education" campaign to ex-

plain how the new system would affect private clients. David Jones, chief executive of Sharelink, the UK's largest retail stockbroker, said: "Our concern is that the trading system will become a hybrid one and we have already expressed our reservations in writing to the Commons Treasury Select Committee. Our main problem is that if we do follow the proposals as they are the UK is in serious danger of losing out on a great opportunity to become the world's lead-

ing capital market." Giles Vardey, director of markets development and marketing at the Stock Exchange, said: This is a complex and important decision and we believe that further debate will help ensure that the final framework and detailed application will work for the whole market place."



Severn joins bidding for South West Water

A BID war for South West Water was triggered yesterday when Severn Trent which already has a proposal from Wessex Water on its way to the Monopolies

and Mergers Commission.

A fight would be hotly contested not only on the price for the company but also on reductions in customer bills that the bidders would offer. Price cuts, already a prime consideration for the water regulator, will gain added political weight as a general election looms.

The move by Severn, which surprised many in the City, will also have to go before the MMC under the Water Industry Act so shareholders will see no firm offers on the table until late summer when the commission is likely to rule.

Frank Dobson, Labour's environment spokesman, yesterday pressed for customer

takeover of South West which has the highest water bills in the country and has been criticised for pouring water into the sea and separately contaminating supplies. He said: The regulator and the Government must make sure that these amalgamations don't allow the companies to hide savings in the accounts so that the customers don't get their fair share of any savings

that might occur.' Price cuts of at least 15 per cent are thought to be inevitable if the regulator is to follow curbs applied to Lyonnaise des Eaux, the French utility which bought Northumbrian

Water. Both potential bidders will be under pressure to deliver price cuts not only to the customers of South West but also to their own. A move to introduce cuts for the South West without commensurate cuts for existing customers BY CHRISTINE BUCKLEY

groups as the effective subsidy of one group of customers by another. bid for South West would be

all cash, said yesterday that it had planned its move for The two companies do not make the same geographical

fit that Wessex is able to offer its southerly neighbour. But



Severn, which is bigger than Wessex and with a gearing of resources to buy South West, says it could make substantial savings from improved management at its target

Alan Costin, finance director, said the intended acquisition formed part of a review of operations initiated last year by Vic Cocker when he became chief executive.

Wessex said it was "pleased that Severn Trent agrees with Wessex about the benefits to customers and shareholders of combining South West Wat-

er in a larger organisation". South West, which rejected the first advance by Wessex as unwelcome, yesterday repeated that response and told its were unsolicited, unwelcome and did not constitute a firm offer for the company.

benefits from the potential Keith Court, the chairman will be viewed by consumer Thames turns tide of diversification

THAMES WATER yesterday took a knife to businesses that have lost the company £70 million in the past six years in a sweeping disposal programme that cost the job of the chief executive.

Mike Hoffman, who was largely responsible for the much-criticised diversification strategy of the utility, left yesterday while his severance was still being negotiated. He is expected to take a pay-off of at least £500,000 after the company made a one-off charge of £95 million for disposing of overseas businesses that Mr Hoffman helped to introduce to the London company's portfolio. Nine businesses, mostly

overseas, are being sold and about 500 jobs are expected to go as Thames moves to refocus on its core water utility func-tions. The bulk of job losses will occur overseas, although Thames is also reorganising some UK functions as part of the streamlining. Mr Hoffman's position will not be filled. The company will be headed by Sir Robert Clarke, non-executive chairman since last year. He becomes executive chairman, while Bill Alexander, managing director of the Thames Water Utilities division, becomes managing director for

all the company's operations. David Luffrum, finance diwere mistaken purchases.

rector, admitted that the businesses that are up for sale Assets are being written down to the tune of £50

putting £30 million of good-will associated with the operations through the profit and loss account as accounting standards dictate. The further £15 million making up the £95 million charge will cover reorganisation costs.

million on the businesses as

Thames expects to get less

The company's shake-out was well received in the City with many utilities analysts calling it overdue. Shares in Thames rose 17p to 575p.

MMC caps classifieds in BT's Yellow Pages

By ERIC REGULY

necessarily lead to a decline in THE Monopolies and Mergoperating profits. They "just ers Commission (MMC) recwon't rise as fast," he said. ommended yesterday that price controls be placed on the classified advertising rates charged by the Yellow Pages after concluding that the business, one of BT's most profitable, had exploited its monopoly position. The findings, which were

accepted by the Department of Trade and Industry, means that advertising rates will have to fall by 2 per cent a year in real terms for a three year period starting in the autumn. John Condron, managing director of the Yellow Pages, was "disappointed" with the price cap but said it would not

Operating profits were £138 million on sales of £338 million in 1994-95 and the return on sales was a lofty 41 per cent. rates except in areas where it Advertising rates have been raised by 4-5 per cent a year since the early 1990s. Mr Condron said efficiency gains, including expansion into new businesses such as electronic and on-line publishing, would allow the company to cope

with the price cap. The Yellow Pages must also publish financial accounts that are separate from BT and stop publishing more than one directory in a given market

area, an order that will effectively eliminate its local directories. Advertisers triggered the MMC inquiry when they complained that the Yellow Pages had raised advertising

local directories. Thomson Directories, the US West division that is the main competitor to Yellow Pages, said it was generally pleased with the MMC's findings but said that the price cap, which will not apply to Thomson, may reduce competition instead of opening up

was competing directly with

Pennington, page 25

Inflation falls to a 15-month low

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

BRITAIN'S headline inflation rate fell to its lowest level for 15 months in February. largely because of cheaper mortgages but also because of the petrol price war between supermarkets.

The headline rate eased to 2.7 per cent, from 2.9 per cent in January. However, the underlying rate, the Government's target, edged up to 29 per cent, from 2.8 per cent. reflecting price rises for food, personal goods and leisure goods, RPIY, the inflation measure that excludes mortgage interest payments and indirect taxes, remained 2.5

per cent. The City had expected the underlying rate to fall with

headline inflation and there was some disappointment. However, the deterioration is not deemed large enough to prevent another quarter-point cut in base rates within the next few months. The Treasury said: "Inflation continues to remain low. The underlying

cost pressures remain weak. Some analysts said that consumer demand may now be strong enough to let retailers rebuild margins a little. Others argued that various indicators of inflation have weakened sharply and that wage growth remains subdued, making it hard to see inflation taking off in the high street.

Pennington, page 25

Caution as Guinness profits go flat By Alasdair Murray

GUINNESS, the drinks company, struck a note of caution on prospects for this year as it unveiled a 4 per cent decline in 1995 profits to £876 million. Guinness blamed difficult market conditions and £69 million exceptional charges for the fall.

Tony Greener, chairman, held out the possibility of a share buyback this year, saying the company was reviewing its dividend and buyback strategies. But the market remained unimpressed and Guinness shares feli 11.5 p to 460.5p. Mr Greener also played down rumours that Guinness sought a major acquisition, describing talk of further consolidation in the spirits industry as "over-

Turnover was flat at £4.68 billion, while the total dividend was raised 8 per cent to 14.9p. Operating profits in United Distillers, the spirits £673 million. But Guinness Brewers Worldwide in-

creased operating profits 5 per cent to £270 million. Guinness's share of the profits from its 34 per cent stake in Moët Hennessy, the drinks subsidiary of LVMH, was Elli million.

Guinness also revealed its marketing spend for the first time — £500 million last year. The company said expendi ture on marketing would grow at "double digit" levels this year. A final dividend of 10.7p (9.9p) is payable on May

of LVMH-Moet Hennessy Louis Vuitton, Guinness's largest shareholder, said he had no plans to sell his company's 20 per cent stake. But M Arnault added that he wanted to see an improvement in Guinness shares. LVMH reported a 10.3 per cent growth in net income to Fr 4 billion. Net sales rose to Fr29.7 billion, an increase of 6.5 per cent. Luxury products grew le per cent, outstripping wines and spirits, which fell 5 per

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET

chairman

Tempus, page 26 | Page 29

Forecast

BET, the business services group, yesterday hit back at Rentokil's £1.9 billion hostile takeover bid, forecasting a 28 per cent increase in its fullr profits at £142 million before tax. BET shares rose to their highest level since the bid was launched last month Page 25, Tempus 26

Warning

Hepworth, the building products, heating and minerals group, accompanied flat annual profits with a warning that profits for the first half of the current year will be affected by tough trading conditions in construction markets across Europe and adverse weather.

The Perfect Travelling Companion ...

THE DALVEY Voyager Clock

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of the company who recently

postponed his scheduled de-

parture in order to see the bid

pledged to the continuing pro-

gramme of improving services

and delivering efficiencies for shareholders and customers.

Neither Severn Trent's nor

Wessex's announcements will

Meanwhile South West is

assembling the case it will put

to the MMC. But rumours still

persist in the City that a US

utility, not subject to the same mandatory MMC referral as a

UK company, may still pounce on South West.

Pennington, page 25

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Short Bros confirms plan to shed jobs

By Ross Tieman INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

SHORT BROTHERS has confirmed plans to shed 800 workers who made wings and other parts for Fokker, the collapsed Dutch aircraft-maker, and warned that 300 more could go unless govern-ment aid was available to retrain them.

Although only 300 compulsory redundancies are expected, a further 250 volunteers are expected, while 540 temporary workers will not be re-

employed.
The job cuts, by the biggest private sector employer in Northern Ireland, will hit hard in a community already suffering an unemployment rate of 11.9 per cent, the highest in the United Kingdom.

Receivers are expected to order the completion of only 12 or 15 jet and turboprop airliners left on Fokker's production line. Output of the Fokker 70 64-seat jet and its big sister, the 110-seat Fokker 100, had been running at

about 40 aircraft a year. The job cuts will affect nearly a fifth of Short Brothers workforce in Belfast. The company hopes government help may be available to retrain some employees for other work

on new programmes. Bombardier is said to be in talks with administrators in Amsterdam about a possible takeover of the Fokker aircraft maintenance business, which provides after-market support for airlines. Saab Aircraft of Sweden confirmed discussions about parts of the Fokker business.

TOURIST RATES

Ireland Pt Israel Shk Italy Lira Japan Yen Malta



David Kendall, chairman of Blagden Industries, joins Richard Searle, chief executive, and David Roach, finance director, in looking to the next phase of development after the steel drum, chemicals and protective equipment group, returned to the dividend list with a 2p final payout. It reported pre-tax profits of £9.06 million in the year to December 31, against a provision-driven loss of £5.6 million last time

But the company argues

that there will be a marked

jump in costs on the full

introduction of competition

into the domestic market, with

in supply companies across America to be laid off. Ana-

lysts said that it would have

cost GM about \$25 billion in.

lost production and at least

twice that in the industries

that supply the company. As

well as devastating production

figures of the US car industry

for the first quarter of this

year, the shutdown will have

knocked about a third off total

US industrial output for the

quarter, economists estimate.

British Gas seeks new TransCo price formula

BRITISH GAS yesterday drew further battle lines between its pipeline business and the industry regulator, who is close to imposing pricing curbs on TransCo. the profitable distribution arm

The company, whose chairman, Richard Giordano, has said that a referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission over TransCo's pricing is almost inevitable, is pushing for a different pricing formula and a shake-up of the regulatory constraints operating on it. The decision on the five-year pricing programme.

THE strike that has shut

down most of General Mo-

tors, the world's largest car

maker, for 17 days appears to

be at an end with an agree-

ment between the company

and the United Auto Workers.

The deal will be put to a

The agreement, the details

of which were not disclosed by

the company, will allow the

3,000 workers at two brake

plants in Dayton, Ohio, who

workers' vote today.

which will be announced in capital investment. TransCo the next few months by Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regula-tor, will be worth billions to the company.

Ms Spottiswoode has indicated that a tough price cap, based on the inflation-linked RPI-X, is likely.

British Gas said that it wanted to see the X fall to less than live — the current curb on TransCo. Philip Rogerson, executive director, said that five was far too onerous and the company would be seeking less than that to meet operating costs and to facilitate

GM in strike agreement

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

originally went out on strike to

return to work. The decision

will enable GM to reopen the

26 factories forced to close

because of the walkout. The

brake workers had been wor-

ried about job security

because of moves by the

company to contract some of

its work to outside companies.

North American operations,

forcing 176,000 into idleness,

and caused countless workers

The strike crippled GM's

TransCo having to bill and expects a decrease in total handle the accounts of a range capital expenditure at 1994 of new gas suppliers prices, from £886 million in 1997 to £716 million in 2004. It

Mr Rogerson also said that British Gas wanted a pricing said: "Total expenditure over the period is projected to amount to £6.6 billion, 58 per structure that included profitsharing, so that some of its cent of which relates to expencash would be returned to diture required to maintain customers - the gas shippers the existing carrying capacity, that use the network - and and the balance to investment shareholders. The move is in new carrying capacity." under discussion with Ofgas.

The regulator, which yesterday published its progress report on the TransCo pricing negotiations, said that a decision would soon be made on whether profit-sharing could be introduced.

British Gas underlined the gulf between itself and the regulator by calling for a public contract between the two parties and arbitration in Moulson, managing director of TransCo, said arbitration would prove a swifter method of solving disputes than an MMC referral, which is the only current form of appeal

other than a judicial review.

Ofgas said that the first proposals on TransCo will be published on May 6, with the final recommendations available publicly on July 15.

Tempus, page 26

Thornton takes over at Laura **Ashley**

By SARAH BAGNALL

THE relationship between Laura Ashley and Goldman Sachs intensified yesterday when the clothing and furnishings group announced the appointment of John Thornton, a partner at the American bank, as chairman to replace Lord Hooson, who retires in

Goldman Sachs is already the retailer's financial adviser. having replaced Lazards last September shortly after the arrival of Ann Iverson as chief executive at Laura Ashley.

Furthermore, until recently Mr Thornton was adviser to Sir Bernard Ashley, widower of the company's founder and owner of 34 per cent of the shares. He relinquished this role when he was appointed a non-executive director of the retailer last July

Thornton for several years because Goldman Sachs is adviser to Storehouse, Ms. Iverson's previous employer.

It is understood that Ms Iverson employed the services of Goldman Sachs during negotiations over her appointment at Laura Ashley, which resulted in a package worth £3.4 million in pay, benefits and bonuses over three years if a series of performance targets are hit.

Building society

By Anne Ashworth

payouts to be taxed

PAYOUTS made to the savers and borrowers of building societies that convert or merge are to be subject to tax, either as capital gains or as income, it was announced yesterday. The Inland Revenue ruling has implications for the 18 million members of societies in the process of converting to banks, or being taken over.

The Inland Revenue said also that cashbacks, sweeteners of as much as £10,000 offered by societies and other lenders to make their mortgages more attractive would be free of tax. This is a change of heart: previously the taxman had said that each scheme would be assessed separately

The Halifax, the Alliance & Leicester and the Woolwich are set to become banks next year, while the National & Provincial is being swallowed the Abbey National. The Cheltenham & Gloucester passed into the control of Lloyds Bank last year in a deal giving cash payouts as large as £14,000. Such payments

will be subject to capital gains. The Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester members are to be given free shares which will also attract capital gains tax, but only when they are sold. In both cases, individuals can reduce their bills by using their annual capital gains tax exemption of £6,000 (£6,300 from April).

Members of a society merg-

ing with another will have to pay income tax on their

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

TUC urges restraint on minimum pay

TRADE unions should not expect a future Labour government to give them the right to dictate the level of the national minimum wage, John Monks, General Secretary of the Trades Union Congress, said yesterday. Unions should not become part of a "crisis of overblown expectations", he told a conference in Dundee of GMB union members from the textile industry. "We cannot hand in a shopping list and expect to go straight to the checkout counter. The TUC has recognised that a Labour government will be responsible for fixing the level of the minimum wage in the light of all the economic circumstances prevailing at the time.

But trade unions would expect Labour to push through early legislation to improve conditions for workers, he said. "Matters such as the national minimum wage should not be neglected when the new cabinet draws up its first Queen's Speech." Mr Monks said that, using the TUC formula, the national minimum wage could range from £3.60 to £4.20.

Forsyth jury still out

JURORS in the trial of Elizabeth Forsyth, former aide to Asil Nadir, were sent home for a second night after again failing to reach verdicts. Deliberations resume this morning. The judge. Mr Justice Tucker, told jurors that they should try to reach unanimous verdicts, but he was prepared to accept a 10.2 majority. Mrs Forsyth, 59, of Great Dunmow, Essex, denies two counts of handling nearly £400,000 in funds allegedly stolen by Mr Nadir from Polly Peck International.

Servisair optimistic

SERVISAIR, the airport services and cargo handling company, said that while charter carriers are proposing cutbacks, scheduled operators still projected growth, and cargo volumes are expected to rise, leaving the company otimistic about prospects. In 1995 profits were £6 million (£4.3) million) before tax and exceptional items. Earnings were 10.67p a share, compared with an adjusted 9.3p. A 2.9p final makes a 4.3p total, compared with a notional 3.8p for 1994.

Receivers in at retailer

ABOUT 300 jobs are at risk after the appointment of receivers at Everything's a £, the discount retailer of giftware. food and cleaning products. The chain was founded in 1992. based on America's dollar-store concept. The first of 27 stores opened in Gateshead. Although turnover has risen to £12 million a year, the business has lost £2 million since inception. Scott Barnes, head of corporate recovery at Grant Thornton, said talks were under way with potential buyers.

Bid for Thornton unit

TR PACIFIC Investment Trust yesterday launched a hostile bid for Thornton's Asian Emerging Markets Investment Trust TR Pacific, which has £155 million under management compared with Thornton Asian's £140 million, is offering Thornton investors new TR Pacific Ordinary shares or a cash alternative. Thornton Asian had already announced plans to restructure following a period of underperformance against regional benchmarks and other similar trusts.

Cattles achieves 42% rise

CATTLES, the financial services group, achieved a 42 per cent rise, to £28.2 million, in profits before tax and exceptional items in 1995. The company's Shopacheck, Britain's secondlargest weekly collected credit company, has 3,000 agents and, before the year end, acquired almost £4 million of book debt and a further 12,000 customers. Earnings per share rose to 14p, from an adjusted 11.3p. The total dividend rises to 6.9p (5.75p) with a 4.45p final. The shares rose 5p. to 240p.

Rea Brothers ahead

REA BROTHERS, the banking and financial services group, yesterday announced a 15 per cent increase in profits to £1.3 million, from £1.16 million, but held the total dividend at lp, with a 0.5p final. During 1995, Rea launched two new investment trusts through Finsbury Asset Management, including the Finsbury Technology Trust. Earnings per share advanced to 2.08p, against 2.01p last time. The shares fell lp to 59p.

Dresdner Bank search

PUBLIC prosecutors in Germany yesterday revealed that tax officers had searched Dresdner Bank's main office in Hamburg and several branches. Prosecutor Ruediger Bagger declined to give details about the search, saying the investigation was continuing. It is the sixth big raid in a twoyear investigation at Germany's second largest bank. Employees at the bank have been suspected of aiding clients in avoiding tax payments by moving funds abroad.

Manders fights slump

SHARES of Manders fell 12p to 313p yesterday after the international coatings and printing inks specialist said that its markets remain depressed and selling prices are under intense pressure. Roy Amos, chairman, said sales in the first two months of the current year were in line with 1995. He expressed confidence in achieving organic growth in 1996. In 1995 pre-tax profits rose 4 per cent to £12.3 million. A final dividend of 8.4p lifts the total to 11.5p from 11p.

Logica wins CAA deal

LOGICA, the computer services group, is today expected to announce it has won a £3.5 million consultancy contract from the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). Logica has signed a deal with the CAA to provide strategic consultancy for the research and development directorate of the National Air Traffic Service (NATS) over a two-year period. As leader of the ATC Research Consortium, Logica will support research into the development of future air traffic control concepts.

CBI finds a slump in orders

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR total order books weakened

MANUFACTURING orders are at their lowest for well over two years, according to evidence today from the Confederation of British Industry.

pectations for output growth remain high, the CBI says in its latest monthly industrial trends survey.

City analysts will see such low levels of orders as further evidence for another interest rate cut, though Adair Turner. Director-General of the CBI, expects the economy to pick up towards the end of the year. Looking at more than 1,000

manufacturing companies.

the CBI's survey for March

shows that manufacturers'

again, and are now at their lowest for a monthly CBI survey since December 1993. The net balance of firms

reporting order books below normal was -15 per cent in March, slightly worse than the -14 per cent last month and the -13 per cent in January, and continuing a downward trend that began last September.

Overseas demand also weakened. Export order books are now running at their lowest level for two years, since March 1994, and are now considered below normal by a net balance of -5 per cent of companies surveyed. This compares with a positive balance of I per cent last month.

Such demand is not reflected in the relative optimism in manufacturers' expectations on output growth. A net 24 per cent expect output to rise, against 20 per cent last month and 16 per cent in January.

Sudhir Junankar, CBI associate economic analysis director, says that the pick-up on output expectations suggests growing short-term confidence among companies, but adds: "With firms also continoing to report excessive stocks of finished goods, the output optimism seen in this survey could be more fragile than companies expect."



Turner: forecasts pick-up



Notice is hereby given that the 160th Annual General Meeting of members of National Provident Institution will be held at the City Conference Centre, 76 Mark Lane, London EC3, on Wednesday, 17 April 1996, at 12.00 noon, for the transaction of the following ordinary business:

- * To receive and adopt the Accounts and Report of the Directors for the year ended 31 December 1995:
- * To reappoint as a Director, Mr A C Barker.
- * To reappoint as a Director, Mr J D Carter. * To reappoint as a Director, Baroness Hogg.
- * To reappoint as a Director, Mr L J Martin.
- * To reappoint as a Director, Mr D J M Roberts. * To reappoint as a Director, Mr J J H Wormell.
- (All of the above Directors are members of the Remuneration Committee)
- * To reappoint Coopers & Lybrand as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to determine their remuneration.
- * To increase the upper limit of each Non-Executive Director's basic fee to £25,000 per annum, and subject to this limit, to authorise the Directors to determine the rate of the basic fee.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD: Steven O'Brien, Company Secretary. Principal Office: National Provident House, 55 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2UE,

NOTE: A member entitled to attend and vote at the general meeting is entitled to appoint a proxy to attend and, on a poll, to vote instead of him or her. A proxy need not be a member of NPI. Proxy forms are available on request from the Company Secretary at the Principal Office. Completed proxy forms must be deposited at the Principal Office not later than 12 noon on 15 April 1996.



PROVIDING PENSIONS SINCE 1835

If you would like a copy of NPI's Report and Accounts 1995, write to John Fisher, NPI, GV02C, National Provident House, 55 Calverley Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 2UE

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☐ Top men leave a water industry at low ebb ☐ Power struggle thats holds key to inflation ☐ Stock Exchange takes the plunge

☐ LAST summer Mike Hoffman was the shiny, bright face of the water industry. While he was touring the offices of opinion formers spreading the gospel, Trevor Newton was holed up in Yorkshire the dirty face of the Yorkshire, the dirty face of the industry, trying not to use any of the precious stuff to wash in. This week they were as one as the unacceptable faces of an industry that might not be able to supply 18 million households this year, whether we have the worst drought for 401 years or not.

Thames Water announced yesterday that Mr Clean is to leave his post as chief executive under a rain cloud while Mr Dirty said on Monday that he was going to take an early bath.

The state of the s

At Thames, where the proud boast — shouted loud by Mr Hoffman — was that there were no water restrictions last summer or any recent summer since its ring main was operational, Mr Hoffman, an engineer at heart, is now surplus to requirements. The company will not need a chief executive any more and will not be seeking a replacement.

What Thames, Yorkshire and all the other water companies need is someone to make them bidproof. As Severn Trent was telling the Stock Exchange that it too wants to bid for South West Water, the company that managed to lose a reservoir and separately poison Out at the deep end

customers paying the highest water bills in the country, Thames was taking a £95 million one-off hit. This, remarkably, included £30 million of goodwill, a commodity that many thought had run out long ago in the industry. Thames is now to stick to its core utility business - no more forays into India and other far-flung places to try to teach water preservation and distribu-tion. Nine businesses are being sold after costing £26 million in losses last year.

Yorkshire might also try this novel approach of ensuring that all its customers have water delivered to their home without restriction and without the use of tankers instead of trying to sell its expertise abroad. Northumbrian, provider of the water that kept Yorkshire afloat, has al-

ready fallen to the French.
The battle between Wessex, Severn Trent and whoever else decides to take a pop at South West Water is likely to be lengthy as the Monopolies and Mergers Commission ponders whether customers will be disadvantaged by harden that it is not to the severe whether the sever by having their water supplied by a giant instead of a minnow.

Meanwhile, the Water Services Association loses its chair-man in Mr Hoffman, and must seek a new honest face to explain why we will not have enough water this summer unless we have a miserable wet spring. The answer will have nothing to do with leaking pipes not being repaired, nor lack of capital investment. The need for universal water meets and the beauty investment that would require from the companies is also likely to be avoided, as the industry

does not want to pay. But whoever gets the job should be in line for a big pay off

Underlying gloom

IT IS a mark of how good Britain's inflation performance has been over the past couple of years that a tiny rise in the

underlying rate yesterday was greeted with resignation and gloom in the City: gloom because it is obvious, isn't it, that inflation is coming back with a vengeance;

PENNINGTON

Clarke is going to cut interest rates again anyway to close the opinion poli gap.

In fact, there was lots of good news on the inflation front in yesterday's figures and in stat-isticians' view of the outlook in the months ahead. There was precious little bounce back in prices for clothing and footwear and household goods in February after record-breaking price discourse in the January after discounts in the January sales. The annual rate of services inflation fell to 2.1 per cent, the same level as in December. But the rate in both these months was the lowest since May 1986. And the supermarket price wars continue. The major chains

are daggers drawn on petrol and there are more price cuts to

come. There is still fierce competition too on selected food brands. Tinned baked beans, we are told, is the next big fight looming. Washing up liquid is another field of battle. And, in the months to come, there will be more good news on the mortgage front. This reflects not only a drive by lenders to restart the housing market but the intens-ifying ideological battle lines being drawn between mutuality and public and bank ownership of building societies.

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of building societies.

Prospects for inflation depend crucially on whether we are finally beginning to see a shift in the balance of power between consumers and retailers. Up to now, the recovery has seen the consumer absolutely dominant over hard-pressed retailers. Ev-ery time retailers have been tempted to raise their prices, the consumer has promptly walked away. Yesterday's figures were seen by some in the City as the first tentative sign that consumers have become confident enough to accept modest price increases. Others guess that the price rises, as so often before in

this recovery, will not stick.

The answer to these questions rest in consumer psychology and that is a notoriously difficult science to master.

Order matching ahov

□ NO ONE (let alone an incumbent chief executive) can ever be quite sure what a Stock Exchange board meeting might portend but, mercifully, the outcome of yesterday's gathering was much in line with recent market intelligence.

market intelligence.
The brave new world of "order matching" trading, in contrast to the traditional "quote driven" system, is on the way, albeit somewhat later than Michael Lawrence, the Stock Exchange's former chief executive, originally envisaged. Last November the message was that order driven trading would arrive in August when Sequence VI, the new electronic trading platform, goes live. Sequence VI remains on schedule but the introduction of order matching has been post-poned until the spring of 1997, pending a "final decision".

When mankind meets machine, Mercury can help.

The Stock Exchange has always been coy about how many stocks would be covered by the system favoured by some, but by no means all, end users. After dwelling on the top 350 com-panies, the Tower has finally settled for the FT-SE 100 counters, with an option to extend coverage.

This, in turn, will be combined with "block trading" which will permit "large players to continue to take risks and commit capital". For "large players" read the market-makers who as hefers will provide ers who, as before, will provide

liquidity at a price.
Talks with the Treasury, the SIB, the OFT and the SFA start shortly. Precious little has been said about the benefits or otherwise for the private investor, a factor that the authorities might wish to bear in mind.

Hard sell

Overcharging by JR Hartley should be the next book to be promoted by those fey television advertisements for Yellow Pages. Yesterday the BT subsidiary. renowned for helping us find the better things in life, was rapped by the Monopolies Commission for acting against the public interest in overcharging for its advertisements and exploiting its monopoly position. Not quite the values extolled by Mr Hartley.

BET targets £142m to foil Rentokil

By Alasdair Murray

BET yesterday hit back at topher Harding, chairman, Rentokil's £1.9 billion takeover further described the Rentokil bid, forecasting a 28 per cent increase in full-year profits at £142 million before tax.

BET shares rose 3p to close at 203p, their highest level since the bid was launched last month as the City speculated Rentokil would now have to return with a higher offer. Rentokil shares rose also, by 6.5p to 354p, valuing the bid at 198p a share. Yesterday Rentokil shareholders voted in favour of the bid at an extraordinary meeting. BET promised a dividend

forecast for 1997 by the close of commitment to raise the dividend by 27.5 per cent to 5.1p a share for the year ended March 1996. The company also predicted a 10 per cent increase in group turnover to

John Clark, chief executive, said: "This is tangible proof that BET is delivering on promises. These results demonstrate that BET has an exciting independent future and that Rentokil's offer is wholly inadequate." Sir Chrisbid as reminiscent of a 1980's conglomerate bid with little overlap, strategy or value. But Clive Thompson, Rento-

kil chief executive, said: "If this is the best the BET board can do, we continue to wonder why it doesn't recommend our offer." Rentokil claimed the profit forecast was barely above previously forecast levels and did not contain the 10 per cent anticipating. Rentokil now has until Easter to increase its offer,

would need to be pitched at BET concentrated its fire on Rentokil's 179.5p.cash offer. The sum represents a price earnings multiple of 16.6 times forecast earnings a share and stood at a 32 per cent discount to Rentokil's own market rating. The company also pointed out the offer price valued the BET element of a merged group as only 33 per cent of the total,

ing 42 per cent of the profit.

Tempus, page 26

Irish Life to offer new deals

7 SE2

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

IRISH LIFE is to spend Ir £10 million to contact 110,000 policyholders whose unitlinked savings plans have produced disappointing re-turns to offer them alternative investments.

Each policy's return will be assessed individually and savers. most of whom bought their plan in the late 1980s and 1990s, will be given the chance to switch to a product giving a guaran-

Irish Life, Ireland's largest life assurance company, announced yesterday it had increased its embedded value earnings, or profits, by 22 per cent in 1995 to 1r£89 million. New business (premium income) rose by 8 per cent to Ir £405 million.

Earnings rose from
Irll.22p a share to Irll.59 and
the total dividend is Irl4.02p. up from Ir12.98p.
The shares closed with a

gain of 3p to 263p.

APV goes back into the black

By Sarah Cunningham

APV, maker of food and drink processing equipment, reported a return to profit yesterday. demonstrating the benefits of a restructuring programme launched in January last year.

Sir Peter Cazalet, chairman, announced he will retire on September 30. He will be succeeded by Mike Smith, an executive director of BTR until last September.

APV made a pre-tax profit of £26.9 million last year, compared with a loss of £18.2 million. The improvement reflects higher margins and earnings from disposals. The company said its increased profitability should make up for a 5 per cent fall in the value of orders received in the first two months of this year.

Final restructuring this and next year meant an exceptional charge of £10.5 million for 1995 compared with £32.5 million. There is an unchanged full-year dividend of Tempus, page 26

Grattan stake sold

By MARTIN BARROW

THE 15 per cent stake in Grattan, the catalogue and mail order business, owned by Fine Art Developments, the UK greeting card company. is being sold to Otto Versand, the German retail group, for

 about E25 million. Fine Art will receive an initial consideration of £12.2 million later this month, with the balance due in March next

The Grattan interest was acquired by Fine Art during 1991 and 1992, and the cost of the investment was £12.02 million. The proceeds of the . E5.78 million.

sale will be used to reduce bank borrowings. Shares in Fine Art rose lp to 429p

Fine Art, which sells a wide range of merchandise through mail order catalogues, saw profits stagnate at £38 million before tax in the last full financial year and has been exploring ways to develop the business in the face of difficult trading conditions.

In the first half of the current year, the company reported a rise in pre-tax profits to £6.2 million, from

http://www.mercury.co.uk

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Severn joins Wessex in battle for South West

ed a fair sprinkling of interest for City speculators as the prospect of a battle for control of South West Water loomed large. After months of inactivity they are showing signs of springing back into life, with a number expected to suffer the same late as the regional electricity companies.

Shares of South West surged 44p to 650p after Severn Trent, its rival, slung its hat into the ring by announcing that it is seeking regulatory approval to launch a hid. South West is already the subject of an approach from Wessex Water, its nextdoor neighbour.

Last night City speculators were licking their lips at the prospect of an auction developing. They claim the terms from Wessex are likely to value the deal at around \$700 mittion. Severn has already indicated that any bid it makes for SWW is likely to be made

up entirely of cash. Both predators must now want to see if they will be given the all-clear to make a move. The general view is that the bids will receive the go-ahead. but that the regulator may demand certain conditions are min. Wessex finished 7p cheaper at 331p, while Severn Frent dropped 21p to 618p.

Elsewhere in the sector. Thames Water stood out with a rise of 17p to 575p as the City gave the thumbs-up to wideranging proposals aimed at restructuring the group.

Thames intends to refocus on its core utility operations. and international projects, but it is withdrawing from designand construction. The move is expected to cost the group \$95. million in write-offs. Michael-Hoffman has resigned as chief executive.

There was selective support for the other water companies. with Southern adding 24p to 747p. Weish Water Sp to 749p. and Yorkshire 15p to 635p.

The rest of the equity marker succeeded in breaching the 3,700 level, albeit briefly, having reached a high for the day of 3,702.3. The FT-SE 100 index finished 12.9 points up at 3,008.3 despite a lacklustre performance by the bond market and an opening fall of more than 30 points by the Dow Jones average on Wall Street. In all, 842 million

ket, rising 3½p to 248p ahead of the deadline, later today, of



Some water companies could find themselves reshaped

the Orange retail offer. The imminent flotation of Orange has crystallised the value of the other mobile phone operators and led to some of them

being rerated. Full-year figures from Guinness received a lukewarm reception from brokers. with the shares nursing a fall of 11/2p at 4001/2p. Trading conditions in the drinks indus-

place has suggested a full bid from either Bass, which already owns the Holiday Inn chain, or the Hilton Hotel Group in the US. Now there is a suggestion that Scottish & Newcastle. 2p lighter at 6482p. may link up with Hilton and buy the group's chain of betting shops, leaving Hilton with the hotels.

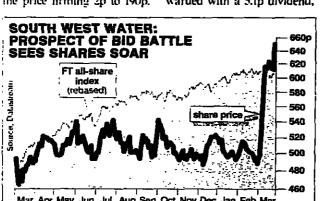
Recent talk in the market-

After reaching a new high of 507p earlier this week, Rank Organisation closed last night 8p down at 499p as turnover reached more than two million shares. Word is that County NatWest, the broker, has turned bearish and feels the shares are due for a correction.

try remain difficult, with the group having to suffer patchy demand and rising advertising and market expenditure. This was reflected in a pre-tax profit shortfall of £39 million at 5876 million. Brokers say it is difficult to get excited about prospects for Guinness in the current year

Ladbroke continued to attract speculative support, with the price firming 2p to 190p.

BET has fired off another salvo in its effort to remain independent. As part of its attempt to fend off Rentokil's £1.8 billion bid, it is forecasting a near 30 per cent rise in profits and dividends. Pre-tax profits are set to rise from Elli million to £142 million, substantially above current market forecasts of £135 million. Shareholders are to be rewarded with a 5.1p dividend.



up from 4p last time. I described the Rentokil bid as "wholly inadequate".

Brokers say the hot money is banking on a win for Rentokil. They claim a modest increase in the terms to tandon around 215p a share would guarantee victory. Rentokil responded with a rise of 64p to 354p, valuing the terms for Rentokil at 197.5p. BET finished 3p firmer at 203p.

There was a chutch of companies making their stock market debut. The biggest was Fulmar, the contract printer. which was launched by Mike Taylor, chief executive, at the height of the miners' strike in the 1970s with the help of a £4,000 loan.

After being offered at 154p. the shares started life yesterday at 183p and ended the session at 186p, a healthy premium of 28p. At these levels, the group is capitalised at £58.26 million. Almost three million shares were

First-time dealings in Triad. the software systems consultant, also got off to a positive start following a placing at 135p. The shares opened at 173p before closing at a peak of 178p. a premium of 43p. capitalising the company at

around E45 million. Silver Shield, the windscreen replacement specialist, opened at 312p before settling

GILT-EDGED: Prices marked time for much of the session with investors apparently reluctant to continue chasing the market higher. Dealers say the London market continues to reflect bond movements in the US, where the recent strong run shows signs of coming to a halt.

The latest inflation numbers were much in line with forecasts and did little to influence investors one way or the other. In the futures market, the June series of the Long Gilt made little headway firming just a tick to close at £1051132 with a total of 48,000 contracts completed.

Among conventional issues, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 hardened £1s to £97316, while per cent 2000 was £1s better at El021332. □ NEW YORK: Wall Street

went into what one investment strategist described as neutral mode and shares were mixed. By midday the Dow Jones industrial average was

	New York (midday): Dow Jones
	Tokyo: Nikkei average 20127-53 (+284.03)
	Hong Kong: Hang Seng
	Amsterdam: 527.21 1-0.51)
	Sydney: A0
	Frankfurt: 2504.12 (+18.22)
	Singapore: 2422.80 (+38.84)
lt	Brussels: General
5 y	Paris: CAC-40 1976.89 (+7.10)
r	Zurich: SKA Gen 765.30 (-1.90)

MAJOR INDICES

	Taurand:
	FT 30 3769.3 (+12)
ı	FT 100 3698.3 (+121
ı	FT-SE Mid 250 4297.4 (+15-)
Į	FT-SE-A 350 1860.5 (+6.5
ľ	FT-SE Eurotruck 100 1610.28 (+1.98
ł	FT A All-Share 1839.6 (+0.12
l	FT Non Financials 1958.85 (+5.13
ł	PT Fixed Interest 110.89 (+0.11
ı	FT Govt Secs
l	Bangains40076
ı	SEAQ Volume
ı	USM (Datastrn) 205.87 (-0.66)
ı	US\$ 1.5372 (-0.000)
	1.33/2 (-12000-)
	German Mark
	Exchange Index
	ECU 1.1985
	-ECU

RECENT ISSUES

RPI 150.9 Feb (2.7%) Jan 1997=100 RPIX 150.2 Feb (2.0%) Jan 1987=100

BZW Eq (Brmd) A	514	- 2
Clubhaus Wis	3	٠
Freepages ((2)	1412	- 1:
Fulmar (154)	186	
IOC Inti	130	
Int Blech Tst C (100)	100	
Life Off Opps (100)	52	- 1:
M & G Equity Cap	22'2	
M & G Equity Div	90	
M & G Equity Inc	431:	
Macdonald Htl (145)	190	+ 1
Marine & Merc (125)	125	
Pero Inc Gth Ut (500)	509	
Primary Hith (100)	103	- 2
Saracen Value C	97	
Schroder UK G Uts	255':	
Silver Sh(eld Gp (3)	34	
Stadium Group (120)	130	- 4
Streamline (180)	175	
Triad Group (135)	178	
Visual Action (185)	747	+ 10

MAJOR CHANGES

	RISES:
	Tomkinsons 234p (-26p)
	Blagden 160p (+14p)
	Acom Comp 214p (+16p)
	Wassati 310p (+23p)
	REA 210p (+15p)
	Young 'A'
-	Nthn Foods 204p (+10p)
	Whatman 398p (~19p)
i	Visual Action 242p (+10p)
	Smithkline 684p (+23p:
	Andrew Sykes 255p (+10p)
	Smith WH 437p (±13p)
1	Close Bros
	Abbott Mead 569p (+15p)
	Siebe 853p (+19p)
1	Morgan Cble 428p (+14p)
ı	Man Utd 260p (+9p)
1	Br Land
1	Nat Express 486p (+9p)
ı	Glaxo Wellcome 819p (+14p)
ı	REXAM 392p (+12p)
i	FALLS:
ı	Go-Ahead 309p (-35p)
Į	Mitel 398p (-17p)
۱	Manders 313p (-12p)
Į	Tibbett & Brittn
ļ	BOC 888p (-17p)
ŀ	GUS 670p (-10p)
ı	Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Good for Guinness?

GUINNESS seems to have taken its latest advertising slogan — Not everything in black gave little indication that allocating a bigger and white makes sense - too literally. Guinness prides itself on its marketing wizardry and chose yesterday to reveal to the world for the first time just how much it is spending on those tricksy ads for the black brew and on other drink promotions. However, the £500 million that the company poured into stunts such as St Patrick's Day parties and the "Red Hot, Red Label" whisky campaign in Latin America did little to detract attention from a shrinking bottom line.

Guinness did provide evidence that better performance from the Johnnie Walker whisky brands was a direct result of increased marketing spend over the past few years. However, the general impression is that Guinness is spending a lot of money just to budget to the men in ponytails this year would greatly improve performance, and market forecasts were trimmed to around £980

It is not just Guinness that is suffering in a fickle global drinks market, and, compared to many of its rivals, the company is in good shape. Guinness believes that the industry is at a watershed, with huge investment needed to build leading brands in the mature Western markets and to get a toehold in developing economies. In the meantime, strong cash flow means that shareholders will not go emptyhanded and could be rewarded with a share buy-back. And, if the company's analysis is correct, Guinness will reap the benefits of its marketing spend in the medium term.

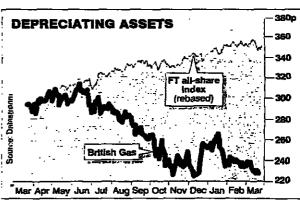
British Gas

BRITISH GAS investors are left none the wiser after Transco's submission to Ofgas vesterday. Capital expenditure and depreciation forecasts confirmed that the company will still be writing down its pipeline assets at a higher rate than it invests well into the next century. That is already a bone of contention between Transco and the shippers who contend that the pipelines sys-tem is worth about a third of the £18 billion price tag from which Transco is writing off some £900 million per year.

Ofgas would like to see some of the cash benefit of lower levels of investment come back to the consumer but so far is remaining coy about whether or not it accepts Transco's valuation of the assets. The company is vehemently defending share-

holders' right to the cash. It is scarcely surprising that Ofgas prefers the "pay as you approach to capex to Transco's smoothing of the cost over decades. By the time renewal of the pipeline network becomes a live issue, free competition will have removed most of the controversy over the pricing of gas to consumers.

The irony in all this is that pipelines represent only 40 per cent of the cost of gas to households. Were the oil companies to renegotiate their take or pay contracts with British Gas, some 5p per therm could be passed on to consumers, reducing bills by almost 10 per cent. However, oil companies are free agents: only Transco is regulated.



APV

NEIL FRENCH has delivered all that the APV board could have expected of him when he stepped in as chief executive in October 1994, at the processing engineering company's lowest point.

His first move was to stem the slide in operating margins, launching a restructuring programme funded by the sale of seven non-core businesses. Having completed the disposals, the restructuring is on track and yesterday's announcement of a pre-tax profit of £26.9 million compared to a 1994 loss of £18.2 million confirmed that emergency surgery has worked.

Improved margins were year. A 5 per cent decrease in

T. Mail

completed its restructuring at the end of next year, it will have an expanding market to serve. Fierce competition in retailing is discouraging food companies from investing in equipment and the industry is already oversupplied. Meanwhile, competition

mergers a difficult route. In the next two years much will depend on consumers: will they want plain foods at low prices, or will they follow fads, meaning a demand for equipment from APV to produce fancy new foods and drinks? If you think the fads will prevail, then APV could be a buy but it will still be fighting for every order.

rules make consolidation or

BET

of takeover, BET produced a to bring BET's modest marorders at the beginning of remarkably sober profit fore-this year is mainly due to cast. Its estimate of a 28 per

than nudge the share price ahead by 3p. The reaction suggests that

much of the growth trumpeted by BET vesterday was in the price. Bid targets generally load their forecasts with a layer of judicious optimism. releasing some of the profit that might be withheld in a cautious provision. At yesterday's closing price of 203p. BET is valued on almost 19 times its forecast earnings, a reasonable premium for a collection of dull businesses. There is therefore little incentive for Rentokil to substantially increase its offer and BET investors can best hope for a sweetener.

The bigger question is whether BET investors should hold out for Rentokil likely to improve further this FOR a company under threat Rentokil will be hard pressed gins up to its own level and success in this bid could damshrinkage of the business cent boost to pre-tax profits age the extravagant rating of

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shares changed hands. Vodafone was a firm mar-Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mai COMMODITIES LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE ECIS-LOR (Landos 6.00mm) **GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES** CRUDE OILS (\$/barrel FOB) WHEAT (dove E/4)

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May 1897-1995 Jan 1769-1768	Cason CEC 196 (n/c) 198 (n/c)	Apr 153.0 158.3
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markets on March 30		Vol: 167 lots Open Interest: 51
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(p/kg lw) Pig Sheep Cartle		
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FT-SE 100	Jun 96	•	3708.0	3675.5	3640.0	HESS
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FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3405	Jun 96 Sep 96				4290.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Jun 96	93,96	93.98	43.95	93.96	13417
Previous open interest: 312919	Sep 96 Dec 96	93.76 93.45	93.8[93.49	93.75 93.44	93.78 93.46	12128 10757
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Previous open interest: 1070755	Seb & ∽ \mu & ∽		90.63	96.57	95.62	25094
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Japanese Govmt Bond	Jun 95	118,62	118.62	11851	118.59	993
	Sep 96	117.36	117.44	117.36	117.43	102
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open Interest 231755	Jun 96 5ep 96	95,95 95,00	95.07 95.15	95.67 94.90	95.90 95.05	176009 180
Three month ECU	Jun 96	95,42	95.43	95_39	95.42	1532
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Euro Swiss Franc Previous open (nierest: 53993	1971 % Sep %	98,19 98,04	98,21 98,08	96.1R 96.04	98.20 98.06	3553 3308
Italian Govmt Bond	Jun %	109.35	109.43	108.72	rn4.10	41927
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_	Kuwali dinar KD 0.4545-0.4645	Avon Products 864 864	Hailiburton 56', 57', Harcourt General 46', 46',	Rockwell Init 60 60 Rohm & Haas 60', 60',
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4	BOC 2,400 Pilkington 2,900	Campbell Soup 64 635	Kerr-McGee 6% 63'. Kimberty-Clark 78', 78', Kmart 9'. 10	TCC inds 2. 2. Tandem Comp 9 9. Tandy Comp 49. 46.
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'B	Bk of Scot. 1.100 RTZ 1,300 Barclays 2.300 Rank Org 2,300	Chese Manhar 73' 73.	Lition 47', 48', Liz Cialborne 34', 37',	Texas inst 97. 51. Texas Unlines 41. 41
7	Bass 1.500 Reckin Coi 1.500 Bise Circle 2.300 Rediand 1,300	Chempi Corp 54, 45.	Louisiana Pac 34'- 26'-	Textron K2 K2 Time Warner 42: 42:
ك	Boots 1,900 Reed Intl 743 BAC 2,400 Rentokil 1,900	Chubb Corp % 95. Cheno Corp 116' 117 Cldcorp 78' 79'	MCI Comm 29, 29; Marriott Int 50 50s	Times-Mirror A 38' 38'. Timben 40' 10'
j	BA 3.400 Reuters 1,300 Brit Gas 15.000 Rolls Royce (2.000	Clores 86' 86'	Mand & Melan 44, 95, Maseo Curp 10, 24,	Torchmark 45°, 45°, Toys R Us 27°, 27°,
ı	Brit Steel 7.900 Royal Ins 1.500	Coca Cola gr. 841,	May Depi Si 47, 50, Maytan Corp 21, 21,	Transamerica 77°, 77°. Travelers 65°, 63°.
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1	Cable Wire 3.400 Schroder 21 Cadbury 6,000 Scot & New 395	Compart Comp 38' 38' Comp Ass Int 71' 72',	McGraw Hill no go. Mead Corp 52: 521: Medironic 57: 57:	Ust inc 32% 31% Ust 213% 211%
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и { п	GRE 2,200 Sld Charld 972	Daylon Hudson KS, 86,	Morgan (77) R3', 84', Motorola Inc 54', 54',	USFAG Corp 15: 15: 15: US Life 20: 20:
r	Gen Acc 1.100 Tl Go 985	Deter 47 42 Dela Air Lines 60 Hp.	Nati Semi 14: 15 Nati Service Inct 34 11:	United Tech 115', 116', Unocal Corp 32', 32',
5	Gen Elec 5.400 Tate & Lyle 238 Glavo Well 9.400 Tesco 3.000	Defuse Comp 3(', 3)'. (NEVISION IN TIMES A 29 MR.	VF Corp 35': 55': WMX Tech 30'- 30'
5	Grand Met 5.500 Thanks W 1.600 Grand Met 5.500 Than EM! 1.700	Dillard Dept St. 164. 16 Disney (Walt) 64. 165.	Newmont Mng 474, 574.	Wal-Mart Stores 134 17. Walther-Lumber 105 107.
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THE



DIARY

Banking on luxury

GORDON Campbell Gray moved into Number One Aldwych this week, where he intends to turn the £12.5 million building, part of which was formerly a grand hanking hall for Lloyds, into one of Lundon's most prestigious hotels, and already he's planning his round-theworld tour to yet the competition.

Over three weeks, Mr Campbell Gray will stay in 20 of the world's finest hotels, including The Peninsula in Hong Kong and the Montalembert in Paris. where he'll scrutinise every detail from the softness of the hotel pillows to their shoe shine service. The Scottish managing director, who set up The Draycott in Cadogan Gardens, has even agreed to pack a camcorder, and include his findings in a fly-on-the-wall television documentary due out in September 1997, to coincide with the opening of the

Hard lines

LORD HOOSON, nonexecutive chairman of the Severn River Crossing, who retires as non-executive chairman of Laura Ashley on May 21, is planning to write a book on his varied career.

Lord Hooson, who first met Sir Bernard and Laura Ashley in 1963, when they only had two employees, hopes to put into print a collection of his "reflections" from his experiences as a businessman. barrister, politician and farmer. "I used to share a chambers with John Mortimer in Dr Johnson's building, so I've observed how hard he had to work." he says.



"Wessex Water, Severn Trent . . . it never rains but it pours"

THE morning market note that stockbrokers Pannure Gordon faxes to clients around the world was unusually to the point vesterday. Beside a pretty picture of a cow, it read: "The British people have been exposed to a new and unpleasant sickness: cash cow disease. Companies have recognised that the economy is mature and slow growing. so they are extracting cash, cutting investment to the minimum needed for maintenance and squeezing costs."

Back put out

WILL CARLING poured out his heart to doctors and nurses this week at the launch party of Pulse, the new healthcare appointments company. Resting his injured leg, the retiring England rugby captain complained of how he's bullied by his forwards. They're always the ones to choose the videos at training camp, he said, then quoted Arnold Schwarzenegger from the film Predator: "I haven't got time to bleed."

THE UK's oldest and second-largest investment trust. Foreign & Colonial, has always found a novel way of comparing the value of £1.000 invested over various time periods. it introduced a new Mars Bar Index at its annual results presentation yesterday. In 1945, a Mars Bar cost the equivalent of 1.4p. Today it costs 26p. Meanwhile, £1,000 invested in F&C would now be worth just over £1m.

The role of head offices comes under scrutiny

What value do bosses add to big companies, asks Carl

Mortished

taff at Shell Centre in London recently celebrated the launch of the newly established Oil Products business organisation, part of the management upeheaval that has cut 28 per cent of the staff at Shell's dual corporate centre in London and The Hague. Donning T-shirts and baseball caps displaying the corporate identity and strategic goals, Shell managers welcomed in the oil company's new management structure and showed goodwill towards colleagues by giving each other

friendly hugs. Meanwhile, across the Thames, in another corporate headquarters. Unilever's top managers are trying on new hats to go with their new job descriptions. The board has reinvented itself, abolishing committees and creating new ones in the hope that new management structures will give the hundreds of Unilever companies around the world better strategic direction. Unilever and Shell are both

on the surface they have little else in common; one makes branded soaps, margarines, ice-creams and hundreds of other so-called fast-moving consumer goods, while the other company deals simply in oil, finding it, refining it and selling it along with oil's by-products to the world at large. A fly on the wall who listened to a board meeting on the top floor of Shell Centre might hear a similar tale if it buzzed across the river to eavesdrop on a similar meeting at Unilever House. Both companies are struggling to raise their financial performance, but fierce competition in the mature markets of Europe and North America is shredding retail margins in petrol and soap powder alike. Meanwhile, emerging markets in Asia and Latin America beckon with the promise of fast growth from growing populations with money in their pockets.

Both companies show symptoms of a malaise that infects the top management of multinationals everywhere. Oncepassive institutional shareholders are becoming more critical of managements and the stock market fashion is to break up large groups in the search for hidden value.

The initial response in boardrooms to shareholder pressure is to cut operating costs. But in the corporate centres of huge multinationals such as Shell and Unilever there is a more fundamental anxiety that the message from High Command is not getting through to the generals on the ground. In some cases, local operating companies receive separate conflicting messages from different arms of the organisation or even no message at all.

Last week. Unilever announced the creation of a top management structure aimed at delivering a clearer strategy and better leadership to the local operating companies. A seven-strong executive committee of the board will be responsible for strategy, while oper-ational responsibility will be delegated to 14 business organ-



isations based on regions. Sir agement division, the regional Michael Perry, Unilever's co-ordinators who acted as the chairman, explained that eyes and ears of the shareholdunder the previous structure, which mixed global responsibility for product strategy with bottom-line responsibility for a region, directors found themselves with conflicts of interest. "Since each of the members of the board were dealing with factional interests of their own, it was very difficult to get complete consensus for a common strategy," he said.

For local company bosses, that could be frustrating. Sir Michael remembers his own experience running Unilever in Thailand and receiving dozens of visits from regional directors, each with their own ideas and pet projects. "I would phone my di-

London and which these twits will I listen to," he joked. Shell's head office shake-up moves strategic focus in the

opposite direction: less emphasis on regions and global strategy for the products. Shell has scrapped an

ers at local level. The new structure is based on four business groups: exploration, oil products, chemicals, and gas and coal, but Shell's new broom is aimed at addressing similar problems: streamlining communication and removing the conflicts that evolved from a complex management matrix developed over 30 years.

According to Peter Hadfield. Shell's human resources director, the structure which was designed to provide checks and balances to decision-making was almost too effective with too many decisions being passed up the corporate ladder. We have tried to cut out

> some things that must be decided locally, selling gasoline, for example. There are some things. such as refining, which are regional, and there are you decide globally: the Shell brand,

for exam-

ple." As a re-

sult. Shell Shell's HQ has seen a shake-up of its head

at Lloyd's.

office staff, while Unilever has vet to decide what the job consequences will be. For companies of their size, such cost-cutting is almost irrelevant to the bottom line. What is important is the recognition that after decades of complacency, change has become necessary. In effect, someone has lifted the lid off Shell Centre and Unilever House, thrust in a wooden spoon and stirred vigorously. Robin Buchanan, of Bain &

Company, the management consultants, believes that companies should tackle the unpleasant question of what value, if any, is created by the corporate centre staff. "People are increasingly recognising that corporate centres can destroy value as well as create it. The question a company needs to ask is: are we at the corporate centre adding value to this business - yes or no? You can have very bureaucratic centres seeking to create synergies but the cost of going after them are greater than the benefits. In other cases, you can have a lot of local businesses with a local mindset when the company

needs to fight globally." Taken to its logical conclusion, the analysis may lead a corporate centre to chuck in the towel if it concluded that it was more of a cost than a resource. As Mr Buchanan puts it: "The answer to the question could be that our businesses would be better off belonging to someone else or, even if we are adding value, could someone else add

even more value?" Mr Hadfield acknowledges

City looks to new GEC chief for change

Ross Tieman on the legacy that awaits Lord Weinstock's successor

Three decades after its creation, the General Electric Company. Britain's biggest manufac-

المكذآ من الاصل

justified because the businesses

are prepared to pay for them."

In the event, neither Shell nor Unilever have put their assets up for sale, but at least one

large international company,

Hanson, came to a different

conclusion and is in the process

of splitting up.
To the outsider, the new

comminee structures at Uni-lever and Shell may look like

musical chairs, but examined

more closely, they are an

attempt to address an intracta-

ble problem for multinationals:

how to remain close to different

customers in far flung locations

while at the same time pushing

their global brands. At the

same time, their shareholders

are rapping them on the shoul-

ders demanding higher profits and dividends. Sir Michael put

the new emphasis succintly:

For example, the president of

a mature business in America

might feel that his way forward

is to expand into areas that are

less mature. But we will say -

thank you, but your task is to

generate value out of your

existing business because we

think it is probably better to

invest this \$100 million of

shareholders funds in China.

That is a decision he cannot

participate in."
The strategic focus on the Far
East is slowly changing the
ethnic make-up of the multina-

tionals. Unilever is on its third

local chairman in Indonesia,

and Hindustan Lever, the Indi-

an subsidiary, has more of its

own staff working outside the

country than foreign Unilever

expatriates working within In-

dia. However, in both Shell

and Unilever, at the heart of the

land may find it easier to take

instruction from London than

Singapore. Technology trans-

the function of corporate cen-

tres, with local companies buy-

ing know-how from London,

Shell and Unilever are not at

the frontiers of high technol-

ogy. Their skill is in delivering

the same product of the same

quality again and again

around the world. The share-

holders remain predominantly

European or American. But if

investors stay with them, it is because of the prospect of

getting a stake in the high-

growth emerging markets, not

for the meagre profits earned

from selling petrol in Surrey or

detergent in Ohio.

Rotterdam or The Hague.

However, companies

also remains a large part of

The breakdown of nat-ional markets has opened the door to global consolidation among rivals in the manufacture of power stations, railway equipment, and even washing machines. Low-margin competition, from giant conglomerates in newly industrialised countries, such as Korea, is stepping up the pressure for

A mere terrier in this world of slavering rott-weilers, in spite of its £10 billion of annual sales, GEC realises that it must move up the technology scale, and build production volumes to offset the cost.

Lord Prior, the chairman, acknowledged the chal-lenge in his annual report last year. "The two elements critical to our success are greater access to the world's markets for our products technological

strength," he wrote. The creator of GEC, Lord Weinstock, will surrender executive responsibility this autumn, at the age of 71, after 33 years at the

corporate centre the faces are helm. His successor as manpredominantly white; either English or Dutch. aging director will be George Simpson, the chief That may change slowly but executive of Lucas Industhe search for growing markets tries, a car parts maker onethird GEC's size. His task is to reshape GEC for a new raises a question as to how long the strategic decision-making of companies like Shell and The renewal of GEC is Unilever will remain in slow growth Europe. There is politalready part-complete. In a ical resistance to creating regional corporate centres: an operating company in Thai-

visionary series of deals, beautifully accomplished, Weinstock joint-ventured several of GEC's businesses with strong partners at the end of the 1980s. The power systems and railway equipment operation was put into a 50/50 joint venture with Alcatel of France to create GEC-Alsthorn, which is now a £7 billion a year business.

In telephone equipment, GEC took on board Siemens of Germany as junior partner (and technology provider) in a 60/40 joint venture. GPT. GEC's Hotpoint fridges, Creda cookers and Cannon gas fires were put into a 50/50 venture with those of its American namesake, General Electric. Furthermore, Weinstock enginecred a half-share in

Europe's biggest satellite builder by merging GEC's space interests with those of Matra of France and mopping up the British Aerocreate Matra-Marconi

All of these deals helped GEC to achieve critical mass in fast-consolidating markets, at minimal cost. Weinstock has long preferred to buy technology and, indeed, capacity, through acquisi-tions, rather than risk the company's money. His management style has been overwhelmingly conservative and risk-averse, focusing on tight financial controls.

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That is how GEC has built up a £2.94 billion cash pile. and why pre-tax profits have grown by only £197 million. to £907 million, in the past decade. For Weinstock, read "yield stock". According to insiders. Mr Simpson will be welcomed with open

In a review of Mr Simpson's options at GEC Andrew Bryant. of County Nat-West, argues that the company is in for a

radical over-

haul. Yes, Mr

Simpson will

open up the

management

6 George Simpson is to reshape **GEC** for a new century 9

vest in technology and capacity. The first target will be strategic partnerships. Expect renewed efforts to merge GEC-Marconi, the L5 billion a year defence busi-ness, with the soon-to-beprivatised Thomson CSF of France, in a three-way link involving Matra, GEĆ's existing partner in the space

Simpson could also do a deal with Dick Evans, the British Aerospace chief executive for whom he used to work as deputy, to bring in BAe's missile interests. A flotation of GEC-

Alsthorn is a possibility. together with new partnerships for that business, and for GPT.

Disposals are probable. The favourites for disposal are businesses that lack critical mass and are seen as peripheral, such as GDA, in white goods, Videojet, in printing, and Express, the lifts company, together with some of the colonial legacy operations.

The City expects change, Changing markets demand it. George Simpson must

BUSINESS LETTERS

Riches were always the attraction in such a risky business

From Mr John Perry Sir, Names at Lloyd's are faced with the decision to accept or refuse the Equitas scheme. The two letters you published from Mr R. F. May and Mr J. D. Burrows reflect some of the antitudes sur-

rounding Lloyd's. As a young qualified solicitor with a firm representing Lloyd's, it was one of my tasks to sit in on the interviews with prospective names at Lloyd's. In 1960 it was the standard practice to advise them that at law they would become liable to their last penny. That having been said, it was added that should a syndicate run into difficulties, it was to be expected that Lloyd's would launch a lifeboat service to

come to the rescue. I well remember the case of one individual who refused to accept financial help because he said that he had entered into the insurance market in the knowledge that he would be personally liable to his last penny. Perhaps a monument should be erected to his hon-

ourable example. I noted the jibe against lawyers "who may not be bent

getting richer". "Getting richer" was the hope which enticed many names into the insurance market. It raised the prospect of a second in-come without any further work involved. At one time, when there was a distinction between earned and unearned income, the money was described as earned income: a misnomer. It would appear that the large exposure to the US asbestos risks has been responsible for the mind-boggling losses.

I fear Mr Burrows is being too narrow in his focus on the short passage from the decision in the Keene Corporation case, Lloyd's, it was said. would take on any risk. Of course, had Keene been aware of the existence of the harmful propensities of asbestos without disclosing the same then the policies could have been rendered void on the grounds of non-disclosure of material

facts. Insurance is a risky business. My efforts for Lloyd's were rewarded by an invitation to dine at the Captain's table. When the senior partner

but are certainly bent on heard of my acceptance, I was getting richer". "Getting rich-sacked. I never did enjoy that meal. Who knows, had I become a wealthy City lawyer. I too may have become a name

Yours faithfully, JOHN PERRY, John Perry & Co (Solicitors). 25 The Green, Richmond, Surrey.

This cannot be justice

From Mr Harry Swaddle Sir, A ballot will be taken in the next few months to accept or reject the Lloyd's 1996 settlement. Only 12,000 of the 34,000 names remain, after resignation for personal reasons by some, plus the "can't pay" and "won't pay". As we will all have a vote, those who have left will no doubt vote to accept and the minority will be left to foot the bill. in some cases the "won't

pay" names will be voting to make others pay their losses. This cannot be justice. Yours faithfully, HARRY SWADDLE, 5 Beverley Gardens, Cullermats. Tyne and Wear.

Disasters not Lloyd's fault From G. B. Potts

Sir, So many of the letters you publish, mostly from embittered names, seem to ignore the fact that, quite apart from asbestosis and pollution, there Personalitation page letters are 7.00-19.00 Mon to Fin. Manachory beneated being will be charged at \$1.77 at WI for counts. Less entre (reduced counting in advance) and authors charges will be desired by your normatical coefficiency or Delta card. Cathy charged at 1 second units. were, in the three years 1988. 1989 and 1990, no less than 11 major disasters. The claims arising from these were bound to cause underwriting losses which were not the fault of Lloyd's, nor were they due to

malpractice or incompetence. The fact that these inevitable losses fell heavily on certain syndicates may well have been due to bad judgement and, in some cases, incompetence, but for names to act now as though all the

I agree that the offer will have to be improved to gain acceptance but it is, in my view, the only realistic solution to the problem. Yours faithfully, G. B. POTTS. Cloth House, Nethergate Street,

blame lies with Lloyd's is to

ignore the facts.

Clare, Sudbury.

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Invesco planning to buy

INVESCO, the international fund management group, is to use its £70 million cash pile to make acquisitions to boost funds under management and expand its businesses in northern Europe, the US and the Asian markets (Robert Miller writes).

Norman Riddell, chief executive of Invesco. which yesterday unveiled a 28 per cent increase in annual profits to top £50 million up to December 31, said that the group started off the New Year in acquisitive style by purchasing Aetna Investment Management in Hong Kong for £6 million spread over three years. Global funds under management rose to £53.8 billion against £41.7

billion last time. Mr Riddell said: "We are always willing to consider a purchase, but it must be the right business at the right price." Earnings per share rose by 17 per cent to 13.7p, while the final dividend of 4p con-tributed to a total payout for the year of 5.75p, compared with 4.75p in 1994.

National Express ready to venture overseas as profits speed to £41m

By Marianne Curphey

NATIONAL EXPRESS, the transport company which now operates coaches, buses and airports, says it is considering "dozens of opportunities" to invest in, or acquire, new companies in the UK. Europe and Far East Adam Mills, deputy chief executive, said National Express was also interested in setting up joint ventures abroad.

He expects to hear "within three weeks" whether NE has been successful in its bid to operate privatised rail services on either the InterCity East Coast Mainline, Midland Mainline, Network South Central or Gatwick Express

He said: "We are hopeful that we will get something." Mr Mills was less optimistic about NE's bid for Birmingham Airport. He said: "We are probably unlikely to be allowed to take a stake, but are still interested in UK airports." National Express already owns both East Midlands and Bournemouth

Yesterday NE reported a



Adam Mills, Phil White, West Midlands Travel chief executive. Ray McEnhill, and Colin Child. NE finance director

near-threefold increase in pre-tax profits in 1995 to £41.5 million from £15.2 million. Operating profit rose to £44 million from £16.3 million. with a £24.7 million contribu-

tion from West Midlands Travel (WMT), acquired in

Cost-cutting measures to reduce debt at WMT had resulted in the loss of 120 jobs and

more were likely, Mr Mills said. Deregulation of buses meant the market was now "very tough", and NE faced competitive pressures in all its

The company has spent several thousand pounds fitting sear belts to all new coaches and by 1997 all 550

Continental, the consortium which won the contract to build and operate the £3 billion Channel Tunnel rail

Meanwhile, operating profit on the coach division last year was flat, at £9.69 million (£9.86 million), although the 1994 figures had been boosted by increased passengers during the rail strike.

Passenger numbers at East Midlands Airport rose 17 per cent to 1.9 million (1.6 million). Earnings per share were up 11 per cent to 27.9p (25.2p). Gearing at the year end was 36 per cent (6 per cent), and the increase relects the debt within West Midlands Travel

when it was acquired. NE is now looking for a successor to outgoing chief executive Ray McEnhill, who wants to step down because of ill health. Mr Mills said the company was "still searching and expects to make an announcement next month".

The total dividend has been increased by 15 per cent to 10p net, compared with 8.7p last year. The shares rose 4p to

Dividend at F&C is raised again

BY ROBERT MILLER

FOREIGN & Colonial. Britain's oldest investment trust. has rewarded its shareholders with a 25th consecutive annual dividend increase. F&C, which has assets of ELS billion and has been managed by Michael Hart since 1969, lifted the final payout by a higher than forecast 10 per cent to 2.1p.

F&C's performance was further boosted by the trust's managers borrowing £134 million to gain additional exposure to the yen and the US and UK bond markets. The F&C investment view was that the yen would gain in strength and for UK and US bond prices to rise. Initially, the bet back-fired, but finally came good in 1995, enabling Mr Hart to pay back the loan and bank a profit further enhanced by currency gains and interest rate differentials.

F&C has increased the numher of predominantly private shareholders to 108.000 from 95,000 previously and has attracted 2,400 investors to its low-cost personal pension plan. Among the top ten investments in its portfolio is a £52 million stake in Robert Fleming, the private merchant

THE TIMES

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CHANGING TIMES

Geest pegs payout despite red ink

By SARAH BAGNALL

SHARPLY lower banana prices and a string of one-off costs pushed Geest, the UK food company, into the red in the year to December 30. The group, which sold its banana business at the start of

the year for E147.1 million, yesterday revealed a slump in pre-tax profits of £12.8 million to a loss of £600,000. Sales fell from £675.7 million to £659.8

million.

Michael Dowdall, chairman, said: "The sale of the banana business marks the beginning of a new stage in

the development of Geest.
"Today. Geest is clearly focused on fresh convenience foods — an area of rapid growth and increasing con-sumer penetration." The sale provides Geest with the financial muscle to expand in this rose 4p to 224p.

fast-growing market. The decline in fortunes reflects £10.6 million of net exceptional costs and a decline in underlying profits from £12.3 million to EIO million.

The banana business. which will not feature in future results, saw operating profits plunge 23 per cent to E8.8 million because of the imposition of an export tax by Colombia and lower banana

In contrast, the group's food preparation businesses lifted operating profits 33 per cent to £10 million, while the fresh convenience foods businesses made an operating profit of E9.4 million.

The final dividend, due July
1, of 4.4p maintains the total
for the year at 8.1p. The shares

Tenneco set for spin-offs

TENNECO, the US conglomerate, is taking its break-up plan one stage further with two large spin-offs this year (Richard Thomson writes). The first is its Newport News Shipbuilding operation, which will be offered to shareholders late in 1996. It also expects to put the finishing touches to a plan to separate

operations by the middle of this year.

The Newport News operation in Vermont supplied \$1.7 billion last year, or 15 per cent of Tenneco's revenues. The energy business, which includes a natural gas pipeline. contributed \$1.9 billion, or about 20 per cent of revenues. The pipeline supplies about its large Tenneco energy one south of US natural gas.

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المحداف الاصل

Hepworth pays the same after flat profits

HEPWORTH, the building products, heating and minerals group, is maintaining its 1995 dividend after returning annual pre-tax profits little changed at E74.5 million. against £75.5 million previous-

company warned shareholders that profits for the first half of the current year will be affected by difficult trading conditions in construction markets across Europe, compounded by adverse

Industrial, heating and home products activities continued to perform at reasonable levels in highly competitive markets. Hepworth said. John Carter, chief executive, said that it was hoped that lower interest rates in western Europe would provide the backdrop for a progressive

rise in activity later in the year. After a promising start. 1995 had proved to be a difficult year in its key construction, heating and home products markets in Britain and on the Continent, the company said. However, an improved result from its refractory and minerals activities led to an overall performance in line

Operating profits slipped to E73.6 million, from E76.7 million, a decline of 4 per cent, in

Rights issue

at Abbott

Mead

Vickers



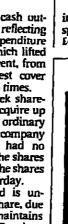
Profits in the building products division fell to £16.1 million, from £19.8 million, while the contribution from home products declined to £9 million, from £12.8 million. Saunier Duval, the boilers subsidiary, held profits almost unchanged at £29 million, against £29.4 million, Buoyant markets lifted the refractories division, whose profits rose to £7.6 million, from £4.3 million, and the minerals and chemicals division, which earned £11.9 million, up from

from £695.9 million.

£10.4 million. There was a net cash outflow of £27.4 million, reflecting increased capital expenditure and acquisitions, which lifted gearing to 22.3 per cent, from 8.4 per cent. Interest cover remained high, at 25 times.

Hepworth is to seek shareholder approval to acquire up to 10 per cent of its ordinary shares, although the company emphasised that it had no intention of buying the shares at the current time. The shares fell 3p, to 290p, yesterday.

The final dividend is unchanged, at 9.35p a share, due on July 12, which maintains the total at 14.85p. Earnings per share were 20.8p. down



Maunders encouraged by housing

By Alasdair Murray A 1-FOR-8 rights issues was launched yesterday at Abbott Mead Vickers, the advertising group, to cover the cost of recent acquisitions.

nameni made after the company unveiled a 27 per cent rise in fullyear profits to £10.4 million. David Abbott, chairman, was also bullish about prospects for this year, saying the company had made a strong start. Abbott Mead has won E50 million new business to date this year, including ICI Dulux and Prudential

The company also recently bought Fishburn Hedges Boys Williams, the PR company.

Turnover increased by 18 per cent to £287 million. The total dividend was increased by 22 per cent to 9p, with a final dividend of 6.25p payable on June 7.

Last year, Abbott Mead gained £115 million in new business, with new clients including Timberland, Pizza Hut and Texas, the DIY chain. The company also enjoyed a large rise in cross-referrals between its marketing and advertising businesss, ending the year with 36 clients using two or more group companies. Group margins increased from 15.6 per cent to 16 per cent, with margins in the advertising division increasing from 14.1 to 14.6 per cent. The company said that BBDO Worldwide, one of its main shareholders, would not

be subscribing to the rights issue but had recently increased its holding in Abbott Mead to 29.6 per cent. BBDO said it would maintain a longterm commitment to its holding in Abbott Mead.

market

housebuilder operating in northwest and southern England, said that although the housing market remains fragile, sales this year are encouraging, with reservations on arget and cemano ak cuts in interest rates and tax. In the half to December 31,

group pre-tax profits fell to £2.5 million, from £3.6 million. The interim dividend remains 2.45p, due on April 26.

Flare buys

Flare Group, the ceramics company, formerly Hewitt Group, is paying £6 million for Bricesco, a kiln maker, and £2.6 million for CMS Colours, supplier of transfers for pottery. Flare made a 1995 pre-tax profit of £1.3 million (1994 loss of £6.3 million). Earnings were 12.7p a share (117.9p loss). There is again no dividend.

Blow to Quality

Pre-tax profits of Quality Software Products fell to £502,697 last year, from £2.5 million, in spite of a 30 per cent rise in turnover, to £21.4 million. A 1.5p final dividend, due on July 17, makes 3p, down from 4.5p.

Gleeson ahead

M J Gleeson Group, the housebuilding and property com-pany, is lifting its interim dividend to 3.75p. from 3.55p, after a rise in pre-tax profits to £3.48 million (£3.24 million) in the half year to December 31.

Try slips

Try Group, the contractor and housebuilder, made a 1995 pre-tax loss of £4.4 million (1994 profits of £620,000). There is no dividend (ip).



THYSSEN AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT

Publication pursuant to Arts. 25 (2) and 41 (3) of the German Securities Trade Act ("WpHG")

In accordance with Art. 21 (1) WoHG, Thyssen Beteiligungsverwallung GmbH, Düsseldorf, Germany, informed us that, after selling part of its stake in our company's voting capital, its shareholding has decreased to 10.0001 percent, which is below the threshold of 25 percent.

Pursuani to Arts. 21 (1) and 22 (1) no. 2 WpHG, Thyssen Vermögensverwaitung GmbH, Düsseldorf, Germany, notified us that it no longer holds the majority of the voting rights in Thyssen Beteiligungsverwaltung GmbH, Düsseldorf, Germany.

Under the terms of Art. 41 (2) WpHG, the Fritz Thyssen Foundation, Cologne, Germany, informed us that it has held 8.58 percent of our company's voting stock as of January 1, 1995.

Duisburg, Germany, March 22, 1996

The Executive Board



James Frost predicted more volume in fewer hands, leading to higher prices at the pumps. He said Frost Group would aim to maximise its margins

Frost edges ahead in tough market

PROFITS at Frost Group, the inde-pendent petrol station chain operator. were little changed in 1995, reflecting the difficult trading conditions in a fiercely competitive market (Martin

Barrow writes).
Pre-tax profits rose to £11.1 million in 1995 from £10.9 million in 1994, in spite of a sharp rise in turnover to £451.5 million from £229.4 million.

from Burmah Castrol's petrol and wholesale business acquired in July for £83 million. Frost also operates the SAVE chain.

There is a final dividend of 3.8p a share, which lifts the total to 7p from 5.6p. Headline earnings fell to 10.2p a share from 11p, although they rose to 13.9p after adjustment for last year's purchase.

James Frost, chairman, said the results represented "a highly satisfaclory outcome for a difficult year in the UK petroleum market".

Mr Frost gave warning that 1996 was going to be tough. Restructuring within the industry would leave BP. Esso and Shell with up to 55 per cent of

dealer market would fall in volume terms. He said: "The end result will be more volume concentrated in fewer hands and that means higher pump

The company said it sought to maximise its total gross margin, even if this meant maintaining margin per litre and sacrificing volume.

Laing down **but sees** pick-up

By Alasdair Murray

JOHN LAING, the construction company, yesterday re-ported a 15 per cent fall in fullyear profits to £20,8 million but was confident the UK construction market was be-

ginning to pick up.

Martin Laing, the chairman, said: The UK housing market has begun to recover, particularly in the South East, and in recent weeks we have seen a growth in sales. However, it is too early to assess the strength of the recovery."

Mr Laing believes a full recovery and an improvement in the risk/reward ratio of the construction industry in the medium term would enable the group to strengthen its

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Turnover increased 3 per cent to £1.2 billion. The construction division made a £2.3 million loss (£2 million profit). after taking an £11.1 million restructuring charge. But the housing division showed a 25 per cent profit improvement at £11.9 million. UK housing sales fell from 2,114 to 1,675 with a slight improvement in the US at 721 units. Total dividend was 9p unchanged, with a final 6p, payable on

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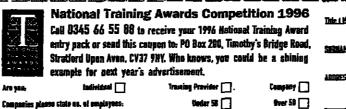
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Legal professional privilege lost in investigative child care proceedings. be conducted fairly. Family

In re L (a Minor) (Police ders in respect of L and her investigation: Privilege) brother.

Before Lord Jauncey of Tullichettle. Lord Mustill, Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Nicholls of Rirkenhead and Lord Steyn (Speeches March 21)

Since proceedings under the Part IV of the Children Act 1989 were nvestigative and non-adversarial in nature and placed the welfare of the child as the primary consideration, an expert's report obtained by a party to care proceedings was not protected by legal professional

The House of Lords so held by a majority. Lord Mustill and Lord Nicholis dissenting, in dismissing an appeal by the mother of L, a minor, from the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Swinton Thomas and Lord Justice Morritt) (The Times April 25, 1995) which had upheld the order of Mrs Justice Bracewell that a medical report concerning L. commissioned by the mother in the course of interim care proceedings in respect of L and her brother, be disclosed to the Greater Manchester Police Authority.

Miss Lindsey Kushner, QC and Miss Lesley A. Newton for the mother; Mr David M. Harris, QC and Mr Anthony Hayden for the council; Mr David M. Harris. QC and Miss Yvonne Coppel for the police authority. Mr Ernest Ryder for the guardian ad litem.

LORD JAUNCEY said that in 1993 L, a child of two drug addicts, became seriously ill after ingesting a quantity of methadone. The mother's explanation was that the child's taking of the substance was accidental. Shortly thereafter the

On the application of both parents, a district judge made the following order: "The parents shall have leave to disclose to a medical expert the court papers for the purpose of a report regarding the equency of the consumption of methadone by L. The identity of such expert is to be disclosed to all parties. The report is to be filed. . . "

The effect of the order was that the report when filed would be available for inspection and copying by any party to the proceedings and the guardian ad litem.

The mother's solicitors duly instructed a consultant chemical pathologist. His report concluded that there was no evidence for habituation to methadone but cast serious doubts on the mother's account of accidental ingestion.

Thereafter the police, while ending a case conference, came to hear of the report and made application to be provided with a copy for the purpose of investigating criminal offences. The judge held that she had jurisdiction to order disclosure to non-parties and that her discretion should be exercised in favour of disclosure.

The mother appealed and while accepting that in general the court had jurisdiction to order disclosure to non-parties she maintained that it had no jurisdiction to order disclosure of the report to the police authority because (i) it was protected by legal professional privilege, and (ii) its disclosure would infringe her privilege against self-incrimination She further argued that the judge had exercised her discretion

Legal professional privilege
The order of the district judge

was in the form approved in Oxfordshire County Council v M

[1994] Fam 151). Sir Stephen Brown, President, there said (at pl62B): "Children's cases are to be regarded as being in a special category. In these circumstances, the court has power to override legal professional privilege in relation to experts' reports when it gives leave to parties to obtain them."

In R v Derby Magistrates Court, Ex parte B (1995) 3 WLR 681, 697) Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, had stated that 'no exception should be allowed to the absolute nature of legal proprivilege once

However, it was clear from his reasoning and that of the other members of the committee that the reference to legal professional privilege had been in the context of the relationship between solicitor

Miss Kushner had maintained that the absolute nature of the privilege attaching to the solicitor client relationship extended equally to all other forms of legal onal privilege. His Lordthin rejected that contention.

There was, as Mr Harris pointed out, a clear distinction between the privilege attaching to communications between solicitor and client and that attaching to reports by third parties prepared the instructions of a client for the purposes of litigation.

In the former case the privilege attached to all communications vhether related to litigation or not. but in the latter case it attached only to documents or other written communications prepared with a

consent be compelled to express an opinion on the factual or legal merits of the case, a third party who had provided a report to a client could be subnormed to give evidence by the other side and could not decline to answer ques-

tions as to his factual findings and opinion thereon Since care proceedings under Part IV of the 1989 Children were non-adversarial in their nature, whereas litigation privilege was essentially a creature of adversarial proceedings, it followed that the matter was at large for the House to determine what if any

His Lordship concluded that care proceedings, which were primarily non-adversarial and investigative, were so far removed from normal actions that litigation privilege had no place in relation to reports obtained by a party thereto which could not have been prepared without the leave of the court to disclose documents al-

role it had to play in care

ready filed or to examine the child, If litigation privilege were to apply to the report in the present case it could have the effect of subordinating the welfare of the child to the interests of the mother in preserving its confidentiality. That would appear to frustrate the primary object of the Act.

The Oxfordshire case had been argued on the assumption that the overridden. The better view was that litigation privilege never arose in the first place. It was excluded by necessary implication from the Act. That did not, of course, affect privilege arising between solicitor and client. Privilege against self-

Where a court was asked to make an order for disclosure. compliance with which was likely to involve the danger of selfincrimination by the defendant, an order producing such a result should not be made. This, how ever, was not such a case. When the mother applied for the order the district judge had no reason to suppose that the report which was sought might incriminate the person seeking it.

It was only when the repor became available that its possible incriminating effect became known and it was at that stage when the mother was first in a position to advance her claim to privilege by seeking a variation of that part of the order which required the report to be filed. However, since the mother had

voluntarily initiated the process did not appeal the order when it was made and obtempered it without seeking a variation, notwithstanding that the unfavourable nature of the report had by then become apparent, she had to be taken to have waived any claim which she may have had to privilege against self-incrimina-tion consequent upon the order of

the district judge. His Lordship emphasised that aithough he had assumed that the mother might have had a claim to privilege in respect of the report, he had not found it necessary to have had one but for her waiver.

Any such claim would on any view have been of limited val since the maker of the report, if subpoenaed as a witness, would have been bound to answer ques-tions as to the opinion which he had formed and the mother would have been bound to answer questions as to the opinion expressed in the report: see section 98(1) of the 1989 Act

Exercise of discretion The judge's exercise of her discretion had not been plainly wrong. She had taken the view. which was entirely justified, that the best interests of L would be served by disclosure. It could not possibly be said that in reaching such a decision she had acted in

In such proceedings it would be most unsatisfactory if the court. having information that the mother might have committed a serious offence against the children whose welfare it was seeking to protect, should be disabled from disclosing such information to the appropriate investigating au-

Lord Lloyd and Lord Stevn agreed with Lord Jauncey.

LORD NICHOLLS, dissenting said that legal professional privilege was deeply embedded in English law. That was confirmed recently by the House in the Derby case. The privilege against non-disclosure prevailed even where the privileged material might as-sist the defence of a person charged

Clear words or a compelling context were needed before Parliament could be taken to have intended that the privilege should be ousted in favour of another interest. The Children Act con-

tained neithe The crucial question was not proceedings were inquisitorial rather than adversarial. The question to be addressed was what was

should say so expressly. The paramountcy principle had not to be permitted to become a loose cannon, destroying all around it. In the course of the submissions had been suggested that the Children Act had impliedly abrogated litigation privilege, while

leaving legal advice privilege un-touched. His Lordship could not accept that. The two sub-headings were integral parts of a single

In the context of court proceed-ings, the purpose of legal advice ilege would be frustrated if the legal adviser could not approach potential witnesses in confidence before advising the client. That

proceedings were court proceed-

ings. The court had to make

decisions affecting, often pro-foundly, the whole future of a child

Whenever necessary, the court

made findings on disputes of fact.

entitled to have a fair hearing.

was legal professional privilege.

opportunity to obtain legal advice

n confidence was accorded the fair

hearing to which he was entitled

under article 6(1), read in conjunc-

tion with article 8, of the European

Convention for the Protection of

Human Rights and Fundamental

Parents and other parties should

be entitled to such a fair hearing

norwithstanding the special role of

judges in family proceedings. If that was not to be, Parliament

Freedoms (1953) (Cmd 8969).

and his or her family.

proceedings as any other. The privilege did not thwart the

objective of family proceedings, or the application of the paramountry principle. Parties were not able to suppress the evidence of an avail able expert, since his views could always be made available within the existing legal framework in the time-honoured aphorism, there

it went without saying that the parties to such proceedings were was no property in a witness. A fair hearing included the right He could not be required to to present one's case and to call disclose the contents of communevidence. Under English law an ications between himself and the established ingredient of that right first party's legal adviser. But his evidence on the issue before the It had to be doubtful whether a court which was all that was parent who was denied the

Production of the state of the

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material, could be compelled. There was an argument that since the expert could be compelled to give evidence, imposing a disclosure condition was doing no more than achieving, by a convenient and expeditious route, a result the court could in any event achieve production of the expert's evidence on an issue in the proceedings. If that were the unity effect of a disclosure condition, his Lordshire

would agree. In practice, however, a disclosure condition would be bound to have an inhibiting effect on communications between the solicitor and the expert and would make significant inroads into the freedom and frankness of confidential communication which the privilege existed to secure. For that reason a disclosure condition went beyond the convenient order-

Lord Mustill agreed with Lord Nicholls.

Solicitors: Manchester: Mrs Susan Orrell, Manchester; Mr Patrick Mulvenna, Salford: Cliffords.

Tribunal should find real cause of dismissal

Speciality Care plc v Pachela

and Another Before Judge Clark, Mr N. D. Willis and Mr T. C. Thomas

Judgment March 8 Where there was a complaint of dismissal by reason of trade union membership it was for the indus trial tribunal to find as a fact whether or not the reason or principal reason for dismissal related to the applicant's trade union membership within the meaning of section 152(1)(a) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992, not only by reference to whether the employee had simply joined a union but also by reference to whether the introduction of union representation into the employ ment relationship had led the

employer to dismiss the employee. Tribunals should answer that question robustly, based on their findings as to what really caused the dismissal in the mind of the

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when allowing an appeal from a decision of a Leeds industrial tribunal in August 1994. the applicants, Helen Pachela and Karen Kellet, had been unfairly dismissed by their employ-

ers, Speciality Care plc. The employers had appealed on the grounds, inter alia, that the tribunal's reasoning was inadequate and that the tribunal had misdirected itself as to the meaning of trade union membership for the purposes of section 152(1)(a) in the light of a subsequent decision

House of Lords in the

Where real difficulties were fore-

seen in identifying and recovering

assets for a bankrupt's estate, and

no difficulties in quantifying any

creditor's debts were expected,

retainer by his trustee of the largest creditor's solicitor could be

of great advantage to all with any

risk of a conflict of interest no more

Mr Justice Robert Walker so

held in the Chancery Division on

March 15 when dismissing an

appeal by the bankrupt from the refusal by District Judge Jolly to

than a distant possibility.

LEGAL NOTICES

EN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

CHARCEST DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF

HARVEY NICHOLS (HOLDINGS) LTD

NO IN THE HATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE S INREST CAPAY dust the Order of the High Court of Jestice (Chancery Division) dused Wadnasday, 6th day of March 1986, conditioning the reduction of the capital of the above Company from 174,000,000 and 110,000,000 and the Massic approach by the Court phoning with respect to the capital of the Company as aboved the moral particulars required by the above restricted of the Above continued to the Above conti

No 00725 of 1996

IN THE HEGH COURT
OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF APPLED
HOLOCRAPHICS P.L.C.
AND IN THE MATTER OF
THE COMPANIES ACT 1998
NOTICE IS HERESY CEVEN
that the Order of the High Court
of Justice (Chancery Division)
dated 6th March 1996 Continuing
the reduction of the share promium account of the above
named Company was registered
by the Repetrar of Companies on
18th March 1996
DATED tha 20th day
of March 1996.
Dickinson Dees (Ref E) Cross
House, Westgate Road, Newerstie
1890 Type NES9 158.

NORTON BOSE

iolicitors for the Company

Using same lawyer

In re a Bankrupt (No 400 of set aside an order authorising the

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

conjoined appeals of Associated Newspapers Ltd v Wilson; Associated British Ports v Palmer

Section 152 provides: "(I) . . . dismissal of an employee shall be regarded as unfair if the reason for (or, if more than one, the principal reason) was that the employee — (a) was, or proposed to become, a member of an independent trade union...

Mr William Birtles for the employers; Mr Paul Rose for the

JUDGE CLARK, delivering the judgment of the tribunal, said that at the time of their dismissals in February 1994 neither applicant had completed two years employment. Their complaints were based on section 154 of the 1992 Act which excluded the two-year qualifying period provisions for a complaint of unfair dismissal where the reason related to trade

union membership or activities. The employers had resolved to alter the shift pattern of the applicants' employment as nursing home carers after their acauisition of the business following a transfer of ownership. The applicants were advised to join their union which they did. They refused to work the new shifts and

were subsequently dismissed. The industrial tribunal found that although their refusal to work their reassigned duties might have been one factor behind the decision to dismiss the applicants, the principal reason was that they had ioined the union and had sought to

retainer by his trustee of such a

solicitor to advise and assist him in

HIS LORDSHIP said that

where there was a real risk of confidential information miscarry-

ing or being misused, the court

would treat that as paramount but

here the solicitors were willing to

undertake not to use, without

leave, in pending litigation by the

bankrupt against their client, any documents which they saw in their

capacity as solicitors to the trustee.

That, in his Lordship's judg-

ment, was the appropriate way to

FIREDA ACES & FITTINGS LTD
THE PRSOLVENCY ACT 1996
NOTICE SI HESSELY GOE
NOTICE SI HESSELY
HISOVENCY ACT 1996. That a
moeting of the creditors of the
bade at the offices of Potmiston &
Appleby. 32 High Strevt. Manchester, M4 1QD on Thursday
4th April 1996 at 12.00 noon, for
the purposes mentioned in Sections 99. 100 and 101 of the said
Act. Pursuant to Section 98. Subsection 121 tai of the Act. Mr
Stephen James Walnwright of
Peopleton & Appleby. 32 High
Strevt. Manchester. Ms 1QD is
brooten by Practitioner who will
furnish Creditors with such information as they may reasonably
rection.

ORDER OF THE BOARD.

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receivers La Mahoon (Textiles) Limited Registered Bushber: 1869519, Nature of Institutes: Manufacturers of domestic textiles. Trade Classification: 8. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 13th March 1996. Name of berson appointing the administrative receivers: Allied

deal with the problem.

IN THE MICH COURT OF PARTICE

CHANCEUX DEVISION NO. 000792 OF 1996

IN THE MAY LED OF

HARVEY NICHOLS AND COMPANY LTD

AND HYTHE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

COMPANIES ACT 1985
NOTICE IS HERENY CARPI that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chanciery Univideo) dated Wednesdry, kill day of Husch 1996, continuing the reduction of the Carbial of the above Company from 116,000,000 to 111,000,000 and the Aliente approved by the Court doneing with respect to the capital of the Coursery as abused the several particulars regulated by the shore-constitued of the Cart doneing with Register Companies on 11th March 1996.

Kampina Hazer, PO Box 570, Campinile Street, London SCIA 7AN Balt CANNS 1/157925)

BLATCON LIMITED
In Administrative Receivership)
NOTICE TO CREDITIONS
A meeting of the creditors of Biascon Limited is to be held at 31 SQD on 18 April 1996 at 11 am under the provisions of Section 48 of the insolvency Act 1995. The purpose of this mosting is to receive the received for the received for the received and if the creditors wish to do so. It applicable a controlitee of

The purpose of the recommendation of the purpose of creditors.

Creditors who have not received and the receivery office relephone number 0.117-929-1500 and ask stand for Rosemany Lacry.

Administrative requiring a copy of the report twinch is available free of charges should write to 31 copy for the report twinch is available at the purpose of the report twinch is available at the purpose of the purpose of

NORTON BOSE

the administration of the estate.

making their protest. It concluded that the principal reason for their dismissal was their joining the union and the dismissals were

automatically unfair by reason of The appeal would be allowed on und that the tribunal had failed to set out its reasoning sufficiently. There was no clear exposition of the findings of primary fact which led the tribunal to draw the inference that the prin-cipal reason for dismissal was

The case would be remitted to another industrial tribunal and it was necessary for the appeal tribunal to consider the application of section 152 of the 1992 Act for that tribunal to apply.

The industrial tribunal had decided the present case after the Court of Appeal's decision in Palmer but before that of the House of Lords. in the Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Dillon had cited a passage from the judgment of Mr Justice Knox in Discount Tobacco and Confectionery Ltd v Armitage ([1995] ICR 431) and stated that that decision meant that it was open to an industrial tribunal to hold that an employee had been dismissed for being a member of a union if he had been dismissed for invoking the assistance of the union in relation to his employment. That represented the law to be applied by industrial

tribunals unless it had been over-

ruled by the House of Lords. The House of Lords had expressed a divergence of views on the meaning of trade union membership but it was an issue which it was not necessary for them to decide and their remarks were obiter it seemed that Armitage was correct on its facts. it would be for an industrial tribunal to find as as fact whether or not the reason or principal reason for dismissal related to the applicant's trade union membership not only by reference to whether he had simply joined a union, but also by reference to whether the introduction of union representation into the employ ment relationship had led the employer to dismiss the employee. Tribunals should answer that

question robustly, based on their findings as to what had really Solicitors: Eaton & Bradford; Mr J. O'Hara, Wimbledon.

CENTERICORE (UK) LINGTED

NOTICE IS HEREBY CIVEN
pursuant to Section 96 of the
lingolvency Act 1966 that a meeting of the creditors of the shoveing of the creditors of the shoveramed complany will be held at
York House. 199 Westminster
Bridge Road, London, SE: 7UT
on the 29th day of March 1996 at
11.30 and for the purposes, if
thousent fill, of nominating a Liquidclader said to suppositing a Liquidclader said to suppositing a Liquidclader and to suppositing a Liquidclader and the purposes, if
thousent of suppositing a Liquidbeth Palacy Road, London SE:
TEL bot later than 12 noon on the
business day before the meeting.
A statement of claim must also be
lodged.

NOTICE is also given that, for
the purpose of voling, sectired
creditors await tunkes they surrander their security; lodge a
statement giving particulars of
their security, the date when it
was given, and the yains at which
they estimate it.

A bit of the names and
addresses of the creditors of the
abou-named company may be
inspected at the offices of Ering &
Young, York House, 199 West-

about-named company may be imported at the offices of Ering & Young, York House, 199 West-minster Bridge Road, London, SEI 7UT between the hours of 10 am and 4 pm on the two business days preceding the recting. Dated this 13th day

Administrative Receivers
R LEVY & CO LIMITED

Registered number 548925, Trading name Army & Novy Stores Nature of business Camp-ing and Clothing Notali. Trade classification 22. Date of appoint-ment of administrative receivates

classification 22. Date of appoint ment of administrative receivering 18th March 1996. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers Mr. Geoffrey Lovy. APPOINTEES: 18 Reductes and J. W Powell Joint Administrative Receivers toffice holder noted to the person of the person o

Ernst & Young (a Firm) v

Judgment March 6

be set aside as an abuse of the process of the court. Mr Jonathan Hirst, QC and Mr Neil Calver for Ernst & Young: Mr

been inadvertent. On April 7 there was exhibited to an affidavit sworn on Butte's behalf a draft counterclaim for at least El.9 million. A counter-affidavit on behalf of Ernst & Young called that counterclaim wholly spurious and belatedly raised in a transparently dishones attempt to have a simple judgment

... set aside" illustrating that that was litigation of the utmost vigour. A further crucial affidavit on Butte's behalf, to which were exhibited a fuller defence and counterclaim, claimed damages of around £100 million.

The next material events occ-

urred at the end of January 1996, when discussions led to the sealing by the court on January 31 of a consent order, setting aside the default judgment and continuing that Butte "be at liberty uncond tionally ... to serve on [Ernst & Young] its defence and counterclaim".

Solicitor must not benefit after contributing to other's mistake

Frere Cholmeley Bischoff

proportedly served Butte's defence

and counterclaim on Barlow Lyde

A plaintiff's right to discontinue,

without leave and at any time not

later than 14 days after service of

the defence, was subject to the overriding rule that he could not

do so if it was an abuse of process

Castanho v Brown & Root [1981]

draft counterclaim were so very

much larger than the sum

awarded in the default judgment it

was understandable that Ernst &

Young might conclude that they would willingly relinquish the

latter in order to scotch the former.

because a fresh action by Butte, to

recover those damages, would be

Conversely, Butte might con-clude that Ernst & Young should, if possible, be stopped from dis-

continuing their action unless and

until Butte's counterclaim had

been served; once made, it would

survive discontinuance, under

Order 15, rule 2(3) of the Rules of

It was clear from the evidence of

both the litigation partners con-cerned, Miss Caroline Bassett at

Frere Cholmeley Bischoff and

Miss Clare Canning at Barlow Lyde & Gilbert, that each was well

aware of the implications of the

position; but neither was sure that

the other was equally aware of

Three issues had been

1 Had Butte, at the time of service

of the notice of discontinuance,

already made a counterclaim so as

to take advantage of rule 2(3)?
His Lordship analysed nine leading authorities on the topic,

drawing the conclusion that the

balance favoured the stricter view

taken by Mr Justice Robert Goff in

Impex Transport v Thames Hold-ings [1981] I WLR 1547) so that

Butte failed to show that it had.

2 Had there been an agreement

Since the damages sought in the

AC 557, 571).

statute-barred.

the Supreme Court.

Butte Mining plc Before Mr Justice Robert Walker

A solicitor must scrupulously retrain from taking advantage of another's obvious mistake, especially in the most hostile litiga-tion. That duty was intensified where he had been a major contributing cause of the mistake. Mr Justice Robert Walker so held in the Chancery Division in holding that service of a notice of discontinuance by Barlow Lyde & Gilbert of an action in which their clients, Ernst & Young, claimed some £315.000 from Butte Mining plc, the defendant which, if valid would have had the effect of preventing Butte from pursuing against Ernst & Young a counterclaim of the order of US\$2 billion,

Alan Boyle, QC and Mr Douglas

MR JUSTICE ROBERT WALKER said that Ernst & Young action, in default of defence, on March 7, 1995. That same day Butte had applied to set that aside. supported by affidavits from its then solicitor to the effect that the omission to serve a defence had

Barlow Lyde & Gilbert, having taken care to obtain carriage of the order, got it soon after midday on

0171-782 7344

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE

And in the Manter of the Companies Act 1985.
NOTICE IS HERRIEY CIVE had the Order of the High Cou of Justice (Chancery Sivisio dated 20th March 1996 condition to the couples for about 100-100 about 100 the amount of the Couple of the Coupl

equivalent to EAUUDIANO as un-late of exchange offered by flarciany Bank Pic at midday on the date of the registration of one said Minute. The Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as attered the everal

TRANSCO UNION LIMITED NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN POTTOE IS HEREBY GIVEN PURIATION to Section 90 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a meetings of the creditors of the show-national Company will be neid at 7 Kentrick Place. London WI on 29th March 1996 at 12.00 noon for the patroness previded for in

Ranner Pace, London WH 3FF, between the hours of 10.00 em and 4.00 em on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.

DATED this 20TH March 1996.

G Watte, Director.

the Registrar of Com-21st March 1996. DATED this 21st day of March 1996. M.W. Cornish & Co. 11 Old Jewry.

of discontinuance before expiry of together with Ernst & Young's now-disputed notice of discontinu-Butte's time for serving its defence ance, on Butte's solicitors, Frere Cholmeley Bischoff, At 1545hr

His Lordship analysed the evi-dence, and after finding that Miss Bassett must have made a deliberate decision not to mention discontinuance in speaking to Miss Canning, in case she put into her mind a thought that was not there, was not satisfied that either solicitor intended to conclude any larger agreement than that embod ied in the agreed consent order and concluded that, construed naturally, without reference to the actual intentions of either, the order did not exclude Ernst & Young's right to serve such notice. 3 Did such service by Barlow Lyde

In Fakih Brothers v.A. P. Moller (Copenhagen) Ltd ([1994] 1 Lloyd's Rep 103, 109) Mr Justice Hobbouse had said that in considering that issue one must have recard to the

& Gilbert amount to an abuse of

ties and what the plaintiff was attempting to achieve by service. Here, the overall position included looking at any allegation that one side had mis ied the other thereby putting itself in a position to serve a notice which it might not

otherwise have been enabled to. Mr Boyle submitted that Barlow Lyde & Gilbert had deliberately misled Frere Cholmeley Bischoff as to Ernst & Young's intentions. Mr Hirst had candidly admitted devising a plan that Barlow Lyde & Gilbert should secure carriage of the order so that service of Ernst & Young's potice should anticipate or trustrate service of Butte's counter-

claim, and if it was improper, he His Lordship would not say "improper", but would say "im prudent", because of the predictable difficulty of carrying it through without prevarication, and in particular of deciding when proper professional conduct required the plan to be aborted.

His Lordship then considered in detail the evidence and held that Ernst & Young's notice had to be Solicitors: Barlow Lyde & Gil-bert; Frere Cholmeley Bischoff.

between the solicitors that Ernst & Witness statement admissible

Regina v Horseferry Road Magistrates Court, Ex parte

Any witness statement relied on in committal proceedings, whether under section 6(1) or 6(2) of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980, had to be admissible under section 102

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Kennedy and Mr Justice Forbes) so held on February 16 when allowing an application by Hoa Doung for iudicial review of the decision of Mr Anthony Davies, Horselerry Road Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, on November 16, 1995 whereby he committed the defendant for trial at Southwark Crown

The case had been listed for ommittal under section 6(1) for the defendant to clarify aspects of the

dence. The defendant had objected to the complainant's statement being read out but the stipendiary magistrate directed that such matters went to the quality of the evidence and purported to commit the defendant under section 6(2) on papers which included the statement which had been objected to.

MR JUSTICE PORBES said that whether the committal was under section 6(1) or 6(2), any witness statement relied upon had to be admissible under section 102 and statements could not be tendered if they were not admissible under that section.

The witness statement had been improperly tendered and without that there was insufficient evidence to commit. Accordingly the stipenpower to commit the defendant under section 6(2) and the applica-

Law of contract

E. D. & F. Man Ship Ltd v Kvaerner Gibraltar Ltd (The Rothnie)

A contract which provided: "This agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Gibraltar and the parties hereto submit to the nonexclusive jurisdiction of the courts of Gibraltar created a strong prima facie case that that jurisdiction was the appropriate one.

Mr Justice Cresswell sitting in the Commercial Court of the Queen's Bench Division so held on Pebruary 2 in granting a stay of proceedings begun in England by the plaintiff, E. D. & F. Man Ship Ltd. on a summons of the defendant, Kvaerner Gibraltar Ltd.

MR JUSTICE CRESSWELL said that the fact that the parties had agreed the above phrase in their contract created a strong prima facie case that that jurisdiction was an appropriate one. Accordingly the burden shifted to the plaintiffs to show that there were special circumstances by reason of which justice required that the trial should nevertheless

take place in England If it was wrong that the burden shifted, in the alternative, the nonexclusive jurisdiction clause was a strong factor in determining in which jurisdiction the action had the most real and substantial

TI-MYTICA B

Excessive treatment of simple concept

Pavel v Sony Corporation and Others

Before Lord Justice Neil, Lord lustice Hobhouse and Lord Justice Aldaus

[Judgment March 21] Excessive elaboration of a patent case by all the parties, resulting in a lengthy trial of a simple concept in the Patents County Court, was criticised by the Court of Appeal, in dismissing an appeal by the plain tiff patent holder. Andreas Pavel. from orders made by Judge Ford sitting in the Patents County Courton March 1, 1993.

Mr Alastair Wilson, QC and Mr Richard Aroold neither of whom appeared below, for the plaintiff Mr Anthony Watson, QC, who did not appear below, and Mr Guy Burkill for Sony Corporation; Mr Richard Miller, QC. for Toshiba Corporation.

LORD JUSTICE ALDOUS said that the Patents County Court was established to provide a cheap and quick method of resolving patent disputes. The patent in the present case had 2½ pages of written description which could be under-

Despite that, the parties pleaded cases were set out in 261 pages with extensive annexes. There were nearly eight days of hearings about interlocutory disputes and the trial lasted nearly four weeks. The plaintiff ended up needing legal aid and the defendants expended a considerable amount

of costs. It was apparent from the transcript that the trial proceeded with both parties chasing every point, whether material or not. Whether

the fault for those lamentable

adonted or something else was nor for his Lordship to decide. However, some alteration was

necessary if the purposes of the

Patents County Court were to be

LORD JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said he agreed about the excessive elaboration of the proceedings. The procedure adopted was disproportionate to the issues to be

There was both an over-elaboration of the pre-trial procedures and a failure to use the preparatory procedures to limit the scope of the trial. They achieved the worst of both worlds. The result had been inefficiency, delay and excessive

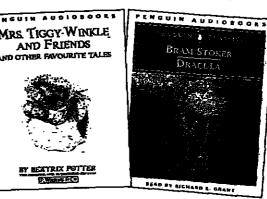
LORD JUSTICE NEILL said that the patent specification ex-plained that the invention related to an audio listening apparatus, including a belt, for the hearing of music and other sounds in high fidelity stereophonic reproduction". The concept was a simple

one and ould be readily under-The Court of Appeal in Chaplin Patents Holding Co Inc v Grown Loftus plc (The Times January 12, 1994) pointed out that the Patents County Court was established to handle the shorter and less complex patent actions and in order to effect a saving in costs.

It was plain beyond argument that in the present case savings in time and expense had not been achieved.

Solicitors: Maycock's (who were not instructed below); Baker & McKenzie: Lawrence Jones (who were not instructed below).

THE Complimentary



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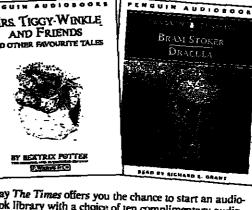
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THE TIMES Α В U 0 D 0 K 0 S **TOKEN 5**

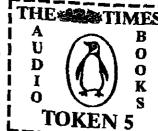
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books. (The complete list appeared on Saturday and Monday.) You also have the chance to collect up to a further 20

books is required (two tokens and a cheque for





THEATRE I Hell, it seems, is Disgracefully Yours, Richard O'Brien's feeble new night of

rock and smut



THEATRE 2

The sleazy side of Swansea: Flesh is an aimless but lively show about bodies bought and sold

THE



II JAZZ

The magnificent Cassandra Wilson applies her smoky contralto to a superbly eclectic range of songs



■ MUSIC

premiere of his latest choral work

JAZZ

Hues of the blues

HEAVY with the musky odour of joss-sticks and filled with assorted gui-tars, the odd mandolin and a plethora of gongs, chimes and hand drums. the stage suggested that a species of New Age folk music was about to be played. American singer Cassandra Wilson's first selection, Neil Young's wistful ballad Harvest Moon, did little to dispel this notion. In a languorous, smoky contraine, she drawled out the song's plaintive, sentimental lyrics over a minimal but effective backing of steel guitar and softly chattering percussion, lightly decorated with the occasional cascade of harmonics from the band's musical director, guitarist Brandon Ross.

Son House's chilling Death Letter Blues, however. immediately shifted the scene firmly from Malibu to Wilson's birthplace, Mississippi, and courtesy chiefly of Robert Johnson, whose classic blues 32-20 and Hellhound on My Trail were the highlights of her subsequent 90-minute set — the spirit of the Delta

Cassandra Wilson Queen Elizabeth Hall

blues hovered over the rest of the performance. Wilson, the daughter of jazz musician Herman B. Fowlkes, started her musical life as a folk singer, subsequently joined a blues band, and rose to fame in 1980s New York with cutting-edge jazz figures such as Steve Coleman and Henry Threadgill, so her eclecticism is hard-earned and wholly uncontrived. In addition, she eschews gratuitous novelty in the songs she selects, always showing them in a new and unexpected light by approaching them in a highly personal manner.

Thus she managed to replace the bleak anguish of Hank Williams's I'm So Lonesome I Could Cry with a gentle, meditative melancholy without doing undue violence to the composer's intentions. and her brooding version of U2's Love is Blindness retained all the song's earnesmess while jenisoning its bombast. In similar fashion she transformed the Monkees' Last Train to Clarksville from uncomplicated high-school fun-seeking to serious lovers' tryst. and imbued Van Morrison's Tupelo Honey with a languid sensuality lack-

ing in the original.

Although both the band and she showed some rough edges, she left the audience on their feet, shouring for more.

CHRIS PARKER



Veteran touch: the 82-year-old George Lloyd conducts the

Repent, sinners, repent

THEATRE: Richard O'Brien goes through Hell; plus sins of the flesh in Croydon

Disgracefully Yours Comedy

omewhere in my memory-bank is the voice of a vicar, grimly menacing me and my brethren with an afterlife consisting of agonising, unending fire. I have to say that I am far more intimidated by the Hell to which Richard O'Brien hospitably invites us in Disgracefully Yours, peopled as it apparently is by fun-loving devils who spend eternity singing car-splintering rock songs and making dismal, rather smutty jokes. I vow that, starting tomorrow, these pages will radiate peace and charity and, whenever they can, help little old ladies across the

Starting tomorrow, let me repeat. I admired O'Brien's musical spool of Bmovies as much as anyone who did not actually wear an anorak emblazoned "I love The Rocky Horrar Show"; but he cannot be allowed to get away with stuff as awesomely feeble as this. Usually when people wander in and out during a show, as they did on and off during Disgracefully Yours. I mutter "sit down in their direction. This time I was inwardly begging everyone between me and the stage to stand up and keep standing.

The curtain rises on two women and a man in spangled frock coats wiggling and bopping in front of what appears to be a vast, tattered, black plastic bag. Hell, they confide, is now a "groovy and happy place", and by way of proving it, on sidles a smirking O'Brien as an updated Mephistopheles. He, too, sports a frock coat, plus cloven clogs and, sticking out of his bald white head, two tiny warts that are presumably meant to be horns. Out of his rear end comes a pink, twirly tail ending in an arrow that seems to point everywhere except the place I was soon longing to go, which was the exit.

Anyway, he proceeds to sing a large number of upbeat and occasionally even tuneful songs composed by himself and, in between them, to enunciate his theology. This is that Hell is now closed to sinners, trainspotters, ad men, indeed everyone who does not love sex, drugs and rock n'roll. It is Club Inferno plc, "the party place for people who want to party forever". Before long, he has put on a pink suit, e three-person chorus have donned frilly pink skirts, and they all proceed energetically to party for what indeed

seems like for ever. I cannot judge the lyrics, except the few helpfully printed in the programme, because they are inaudible. I can only say that if O'Brien's ode to himself is typical ("makes you stammer with his infernal glamour", "a slick looker, a philosophical hooker") then the band of Black Angels should turn their instruments up still higher. But I do have a view on his wit. That gaseous substance should be turned off before it

finishes off the ozone layer. There are jokes about Dirty Gertie.

THE subject, of course, is human flesh, young human flesh and, at least from time to time, prostituted flesh. The four youngsters from the Swansea-based, aptly named Frantic Assembly, present themselves in various guises. girl tart, boy tart, lovers. despairers, but though no-body could dispute their limbthreatening energy, the argument of this 80-minute show is a wandering thread.

The limbs they threaten are their own. Time and again the choreography devised for them by Christine Devaney (from V-Tol Dance Company) requires them to fling their bodies onto the floor. Korina Biggs dies in Scott Graham's arms, collapses, is hauled up and goes down again. Like-wise Cait Davis becomes a dead weight for Steven Hoggett to hold and drop.



meaning Goethe, and Joan of Arc, "a right flaky little pain in the arse", who inexplicably came to Hell and fell in love with a centaur that was "hung like a horse". There are cracks about the meaning of the words succubus and incubus ("in and suck are the clues here") and God and Lucie, alias

close they were the subject of gossip". "I got to the bottom of Sodom," says O'Brien in the breathless evangelist's shriek that passes for his voice, "since there was no tomorrow in Gomorrah." After some 100 minutes of this,

imagine what it was like to be told that he loved us in the audience so much

fervently than ever, I determined to turn over a new leaf. The thought of being loved for eternity by this ghastly, boneheaded old hippie is enough to turn anyone's mind to hopes of

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

water over them.

a nice pairing. Twice Graham calls out "Stop!" and sexual behaviour freezes. At the end,

when the other three are

doing a fair amount of grop-

ing, he throws a bucket of

I confess I could not decide

what the show was telling us.

Customers are not dismissed

with contempt, neither eco-

nomic hardship nor the dan-

gers are emphasised and

there is not a single mention

of drugs - extraordinary in a play about 1990s youth. The

performers have an easy.

conversational style that is

certainly appealing, and are

also pretty sexy, but while I am certain they want to

convey something really ur-

gent and moral, they have not

yet found the signs and im-

Strong meat served in a stew of confusion

Separately they crash on to the ground, or with a partner, spring up and do so again. Some sequences come with they jump on Bibles; in yet others the emotions are unclear and seem just gener-

alised rage or discontent. The four are a likeable bunch, and three of them performed in Frantic's last two shows, Klub and its physical, not very verbal version of Look Back in Anger. Graham and Hoggett look in their twenties but the girls look impossibly young. alCroydon Warehouse

most jailbait, adding a frisson to their accounts of servicing men in Cardiff hotels or dancing in their lingerie at Japanese conventions.

In their boots and black suits they begin by telling us about their desirable features. in the style of a sex ad, then turn the telescope and describe us - only guessing, of course, only guessing which segues into the apprais-

ing comments of a pimp. We money for, and the girls recall teenage flirtations with dad-dy. The boys' childhoods remain a blank, though drama teachers seem to have found their charms enticing.

Throughout these confessions they use their own names, in a text written for them by Spencer Hazel. He reveals an unusual fondness for biblical quotation and makes rather too liberal a use of Dylan Thomasy wordplay - though London Lighthouse and Mary Whitehouse make

ages to do so. JEREMY KINGSTON

New ways with old influences

ON THE hundredth anniversary of its premiere, Dvorák's Cello Concerto was the centre of an all-Dvorák programme by the London Philharmonic Orchestra, with Bernard Haitink as the guest conductor. An ailing Yo-Yo Ma had to withdraw as soloist, and his replacement was the Norwegian Truls Mork, whose finely poised playing was no less attuned to what many consider the composer's crowning

achievement. It was in no sense a blockbuster performance. Mork is too sensitive a musician to overplay his hand, or even his bowing arm, to make a superficial effect, instead he sustains a lyrical flow of eloquent tone, confident in its highlights and romantic in its warmth of expression. A particular virtue was the hushed poetry of his soft playing.

Haitink is not a conductor often associated with Dvorak, although he no doubt performed plenty of his music in his pre-operatic days, and he was a sympathetic advocate from the opening Slavonic Rhapsody (Op 45 No 3) onwards. This bowled along with splendid momentum and rhythmic impetus, and a blend of instrumental colour from the orchestral playing that extended into the concerto as well, where the pitfalls offered by lethargic tempo were firmly avoided.

Haitink also showed no inclination to indulge excessive sentiment in the New World Symphony, preferring to generate a resolute spirit in the music's progress, abetted by individual instrumental colouring of which Thomas Davey's cor anglais solo in the largo movement was only the most prominent example.

NOTHING if not dynamic in his 83rd year, the Cornishborn composer George Lloyd has delivered himself of a major new choral work and summoned the energy to conduct its premiere through almost an hour's duration. A Litany is a florid setting of verses from John Donne's

CONCERTS

LPO/Haitink Philharmonia/Lloyd Festival Hall

17th-century religious poem of that name, commissioned for the Guildford Choral Society.

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The choir's intensely committed singing was one of the virtues of the work's first hearing, as was the richly colourful, sometimes overcrowded, textures from the Philharmonia Orchestra. The soprano Janice Watson and baritone David Wilson-Johnson sustained their solos purposefully, even when the sheer weight and diversity of Lloyd's orchestration, redolent with brass and drums, rendered much of the vocal writing

difficult to disentangle. In style the work is a throwback to the English oratorio tradition of yesteryear, with generous tunes over firmly anchored harmonies, and an occasional rendency to extend a phrase for rather more than it is worth.

It is divided into four movements. One is a thanksgiving to the Virgin Mary engagingly set for unaccompanied chorus, and the solo soprano sings the praises of the "blessed, glorious Trinity" with unabashed fervour. Early pictorial Stravinsky comes to mind at the start of a long final movement. wherein the choral writing grows increasingly eestatic as the words implore a divine response to prayer, ending in a major-key paean of confi-

Reaching out to Lloyd was no great stretch from Elgar when The Music Makers was made to sound unduly lugubrious under the conducting of Hilary Davan Wetton, music director of the Guildford Choir. But the eloquent contralto solo of Catherine Wyn Rogers was a delight.

NOEL GOODWIN

Battling Britten

STUDENTS must be pre-pared for the worst. If there are operas as nasty in storyline and at the same time as righteous in morality as The Rape of Lucretia, then perhaps the Royal Northern College of Music should see to it that its singers are professionally inured to them too. They are unlikely, however, to find as choice an example of a libretto clumsy on every level associated with a score interesting in every way.

Not even Britten could convincingly set lines such as Collatinus is politically astute", but the exposure of his musical thinking in his first chamber opera is as revealing as anything else he wrote. Echoing Bach and Mahler and anticipating a whole range of his own develonment up to Billy Budd and then the church parables, the Lucretia score is essential and fundamental Britten. That is another reason why the RNCM should mount a production of it. Every singer and every instrumentalist involved in the four performances three of them conducted by Timothy Reynish, the other by Paul Mann - should have little difficulty with the Britten idiom from now on.

Whether the college has the

OPERA

The Rape of Lucretia RNCM, Manchester

voices to cast it is another question. Certainly, the two baritones - Adrian Powter as Tarquinius and Peter Molloy as Junius - and the solitary bass - Richard Wood as a particularly impressive Collatinus - are more than adequate. The more dubious casting is Christine Rice as Lucretia: although it is a fullscale contralto part, her voice is too heavy until her lament at the end, where the expressive imperative and the vocal colouring most effectively co-incide. As for the Male and Female Chorus, one could wish for more control at the top of the range from Alberto Janelli and more clarity in general from Polly Kirwan.

Matt English's set is too spacious and too bright for claustrophobía, which is an essential element of the piece. but Stefan Janski's production is tactful in avoiding the shereally-wanted-it implications of Ronald Duncan's libretto.

GERALD LARNER

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■ CHOICE

Lesley Garrett sings her way through popular classical ditties

VENUE: Sunday at the Festival Hall

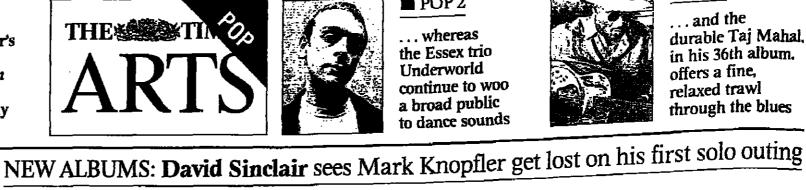


POP 1

Mark Knopfler's first solo album, Golden Heart, reveals a man seriously out of touch



_<u>..</u> -- --



■ POP 2

.. whereas the Essex trio Underworld continue to woo a broad public to dance sounds



POP 3

, and the durable Taj Mahal. in his 36th album. offers a fine, relaxed trawl through the blues

LONDON

MUSIC AT THE SOUTH BANK Conductor Andrew Dravs, flauntst Petrick Gallots and puriest Artur Pizamo team up with BBC Symphony Orchestra for the first of this weekend's muscol highlights, tonight. The London Prillhermonic offers Mahler's Sorth Symphony tonorumy Remard Hallink Symphony tomorrow (Bernard Haitin) conducts) and Lesley Garreti on Passion, planist Till Feliner or a concert Box Office: (017) -960 4242).

ALMEIDA OPERA: A starty line-up comes together for an evening of old and new opera transcriptions and remations, to benefit the theatre's annual contemporary opera and music theatre settson. Among the names to catch are imagen Cooper, Laste Howard, Jonathan Dove, Thomas Adès and James Crabb. **Ameida, Al**meida Street, N1 (0171-359) 4404). Sun, 7,30pm. 👸

ELSEWHERE STIRLING AND EDINBURGH Elgar Howarth leads the BBC Scottish Symptomy Orchestra for the premiere of two commissions tonight: Alasdalr Nicolson's Breakdance and Lyell Cresswell's Dragspil for accordion and

() COMPANY Admin Lester, Sheila Gesh, Sophia Thompson in an exceller staging of Sondheim's bittersweet musical on mamage, pro and contre. Albery. St Martin's Lane. WC2 (0171-369 1730). Mon-Sot, 7.45pmc mals Wed

III THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE Wildian Structure FEATE
Shakespeare Company popular, polity
rough-handling of the Bard The
Complete History of America (abridged)

plays Tues Catherion, Piccadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1737) Wed-Sat, Spm. mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, Spm and Sun. 4pm. (5) SMARRY AND ME. Shela Harcock, But HARRY AND ME. Shela Harcock, Ron Cook, Quidey Sutton in new Nigel Williams play, a dark corredy recording the death throes of an eppaling chair show, James Macdonald directs Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 1745) Now proviewing, 7 300m Opens March 27, 7pm

IJ JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOGY Present of the pretty izacket in a nine-week revival of the first Llayd Webber/Pitce creation Labdt's Apollo, Queen Caroline Struel, Hammermath, W6 (0171-416)

NEW RELEASES CYCLO (18) Over-toroclul por rad of

Ho Chi Minh City's urban hell. From the director of The Scent of Green Papaya. Tran Anti Hung MGM Swiss Centre (0171-439 4470)

JEFFREY (18) Should a gay man have sen" Life affirming cornedy falls flat. With Steve Weber and Painck Stewart Director, Christopher Ashley MGMs: Chelsee (0171-352 5096; Shaftesbury Avenue (0171-326 6273) Odeon Kensington (01426 914566;

RHYTHM THIEF (18) Decolate thes on New York's Lower East Side Energetic but exasperating no-budget move Director, Marthew Harmson Princer Charles (0171-437 8181), today and Morranty

TOY STORY (PG) Computer-animated Disney delight with a cast of fretful toys With the voices of Tom Hanks and Ten Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3322) MGNs: Baker Street (0171-498 9772] Chelsea (0171-392 5096) Odeons: Chelsea (0174-392 5096) Leicester Chelsea (0144-996) Odeons: Kensington (01426 914666) Leicester Square (01426-915 683) Marble Arch (01426 914501; Swiss Cottage (01426 914098) Rio (0171-254 6677) Ribby (0171-737 2121) UCI

WEEKEND CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

stra. James Crabbe is the solois the is also at London's Armeida on Sunday, above) Over in Edinburgh, clannetter Richard Stotzman jorns Tachany Cusiva and the Scottlish Chamber Orchestra in a programme of Richard Rodney Bennett, Brahms, Benok and Brzet.

MiscRoberts Arts Centre, University of String (0*786 461081) Tonight, 8pm, Osteen's Hell. Clerk Street (0) (0131-668 2019). Sat, 7.45pm

LEEDS: David Ross plays the failing music half entertainer, mourning the fail of the British Empire, in John Osbome's The Entertainer, A transfer from Birmingham Rep. Cusarry, West Yorkshine Pleyhouse, Hall Mount (0113-244 2111) Mon-Sal, 7.30pm; mats Apr 3 and 17, 2pm and Apr 13 3pm Unit Apr 20.

MANCHESTER: In a busy weekend for the BBC orchestras, the great mezzo soprano Marta Ewing yors Yan Pascal Torteller and the BBC Philiparmonic for

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessmen of theatre showing in London House full, returns only Some seats available Seats at all prices

AN INSPECTOR CALLS: Stephen

Geoff Brown's assessment of

CURRENT

LA CEREMONIE (15) The perfect LA CEREMONIE (15) The perfect housemad gets her revenge on her employers. Absorbing version of Ruth Rendel's 4. Audigement in Stand, with Isabelle Huppert and Sandnine Bonnaire Director, Claude Chabrol, MGMs; Haymarket (0171-839 1527) Swiss Centre (0171-839 4470) Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 5128)

◆ GET SHORTY (15): John Travolta's loanshark takes on the movie business Enteraning but Imal cornedy from Emore Leonard's novel. Director. Barry Somenfield, With Darry De Vito, Gene Hackman, Rense Russo, Detroy Lindo Empire § (0171-437 1234) Gate § 10171-372 4043) MGMis: Futham Road 0171-372 2639 Trocadero § (0171-434 0031) Odeon Swiss Cottage (01425 914098) Rittay (0171-737 2121) Screen/Salver Street (0171-935 2772) an all-French intrule to the Director of the BBC Proms, John Drummond. Free Trade Hall, Peter Street (0161-834 1712). Sat, 7.30pm. 👸

SALISBURY: The Playhouse transfers a new adaptation of Tess of the D'Urbervilles from Derby, Mark Clements directs, with designs by Cofin Mayes, and Tara Woodward plays the plucky herone tecing betrayal by an encroacting modern world. Playhouse, Melthouse Lane, (0722) 32(333). Mon-Wad, 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat, Spm; mals Thurs, 2.30 and Set, 4pm. Unit Apr 13. 6

LONDON GALLERIES

(0171-430 4215) ... Nasionai Gallery: Old Master paintings from Doris Pamphil Gallery (0171-747 2885) ... National Portrait Gelfery: Devid Livingstore and the Victorian Encounts with Alnoa (0171-360 0055) ... Royal Academy: Fredent Leighton; London Original Print Fair (0171-438 7439) Serpentine: Jean-Michel Basquat (0171-723 9072) . . Tate: Cézanne, extended Sat hours (0171-887 8000/ 0990 661 010) . V & A: The Leighton Frescoes (0171-938 8500)

(0171-928 2252), Tonight-Mo mar Sat, 2 30pm, in rep. (5)

IN TAP DOGS: Dein Peny's sexiet of cancers in working-boots returns to its building-site set. High energy stuff, though some dance aficionados have

been unimpressed. Lyrfe, Shallesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045), Previews lonight, Mon, Borns Fri, Sat, Gorn, 8 45pm, Opens Mar 26.

III TOMMY: Hugely impressive staging of the traumatised child's aportheosis to pinted wheard. Loads of electronic tricks disguise the improbability. Shaftesbury. Shaftesbury. Shaftesbury.

Shaftesbury, Shattesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) Mon-Sat, 8pm;

[] TRAINSPOTTING: The current cult snow: Invine Welsh's drug-blasted, loutorqued Edinburgh no-hopers. Blackly lumny now and then.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Tue-Fn. Bornt Sat, 8 30pm; mets Wart and Sat Sam. Sm. Jan. Arm.

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

mals Wed and Sat, 3pm 👸

Wed and Sat 5pm, Sun 4pm,

■ STANLEY: Interesting Parm Gerns play, with Antony Sher a persuadive Stanley Spencer, inspired by Cookham, groubled by wives.

National (Cottesioe), South Bank, SE1

6082) Tue-Sat, 7 30pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm.

Catchy's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing inspector, and Edward Poel and Susan Engel as the pillers of society. Garrick, Charring Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494-5085) Mon-Fri. 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm.

■ SKYLIGHT: Outstanding playing by Michael Gambon and Lia Williams in David Hare's dramatisation of society's conflicts in the form of a prickly reurien between two lovers Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736) Mon-Sat, 8pm;

> NIXON (15): Exhausting, overlong portrait with Anthony Hopkins and too much rezzle-dazzle from director Oliver Stone With Joan Allen, Powers Boothe, CINEMA GUIDE Ed Harns and Bob Hoskins films in London and (where indicated with the symbol •) on release across the country Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) MGMs: Cheisea (0171-352 5096) 332-3) Means: Chaises (17-132 509: Trocadero § (0171-143 003:) Odeons: Haymarist (01426 915353) Kansington (01426 914666) Swiss Cottage (01426 914088) UCI Whiteleys § (0171-792 3332) Warner § (0171-437 4343)

◆ RESTORATION (15) Life and loves Historian Ton (15) Lis and loves of a 17th-century physician (Robert Downey Jr.). Costume ediravagenza loses 4s way. With Meg Ryan and Sam Heil Director, Michael Hoffman.
 Odeonis: Kensington (01425 914666) West End (01426 915574)

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY (U):
Emms Thompson's radiant adaptation
of Jane Austen's early novel, with
Thompson and Kate Winslel as sisters

with different approaches for the according to the Barbican (§) (0171-638 8891) Chelseet (0171-351 3742) Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3223) Curzona: Mayfair (0171-369 1720) West End (0171-389 1722) Notting Hill Corone (01426 914666) Ritzy (0171-737 2121) Screen/Hill (2) (0171-435 3366) ns (0181-568 1176)

In deep and dire straits

MARK KNOPFLER

Golden Heart (Vertigo/Mercury 514 732)

HE REMAINS the architect of the bestselling British album of them all -Brothers in Arms, by Dire Straits - so you can never count him out completely. But even by the standards of a man who has long made a virtue out of being unfashionable. Mark Knopfler sounds a trifle out of touch on Golden

Heart, his first solo album.

A collection of sedate rock and love songs, flavoured with discreet Celtic and country music textures, it is performed with Knopfler's customary ease and consummate fluency. Locating an unlikely point in the no man's land between roots-rock and easy listening, where penny whistle meets pedal steel, the opening track. Darling Pretty, finds this politest of pickers at his most lugubrious: There will come a day, Darling Pretty/There will come a day when hearts can fly."

That's as may be, but not for one moment does it sound as if this album will fly. As the gruff, barely whispered ballad of Golden Heart itself gives way to the soothing shuffle of No Can Do and the prim romanticism of A Night in Summer Long Ago ("My lady may I have this dance?"), you find yourself longing for something, anything, to happen.

There are moments when the pulse quickens, as on Cannibals, a retooled version of the Dire Straits hit Walk of Life with cajun trimmings. And Imelda introduces a heavier guitar sound along with a handful of southern blues licks (the lyric is about Imelda Marcos's penchant for buying shoes; how current is that?).

UNDERWORLD Second Toughest in the Infants (Junior Boy's Own JBOCD4)

ALTHOUGH hampered by a lack of proper record company muscle, Underworld caused a remarkable stir with their last album, the groundbreaking dubnobasswithmy-headman, released in 1994. One of the first serious dance acts to accommodate the tastes of the broader rock fraternity without surrendering one iota of credibility, the trio from Essex continue to weave restless collages of electronic rhythmic patterns, conventional instrumentation and odd, dislocated bursts of vocalese on the followup, Second Toughest in the Infants.

The opening track, Juanita, is a wondrous 16-minute epic that wears its Kraftwerk influences on its sleeve and provides a powerful springboard for

unti 23 March Role Lensica Christopher Timot CONFUSIONS

the unpredictable musical abstractions which follow. These range from the gently skittish jungle beats and jazzy piano chords of Banstyle/Sappys Curry to the systems music approach of Blueski, wherein a bluesy guitar riff is placed on a loop and subtle layers and twists are massaged into the mix at each four-bar revolution, rather like a piece of clay being turned on a wheel.

TAJ MAHAL Phantom Blues (BMG 01005 82139) MONSTER MIKE WELCH These Blues Are Mine

(Tone-Cool TC 1154) IT WOULD be hard to find two albums that demonstrate the durable and elastic appeal of the blues more forcefully than these offerings by 55-year-old veteran Taj Mahal and 16year-old newcomer Monster Mike Welch. Mahal's 36th album (approximately) is a relaxed, but wonderfully upbeat trawl through various under-

exposed blues and R&B standards. Welch's debut is a contrastingly explosive collection of original compositions, albeit firmly rooted in the 12bar tradition, designed to showcase the astounding touch and technique of this Boston-based guitarist. With a sound and playing style which most closely resembles that of the late Stevie Ray Vaughan, Welch also passes muster as a vocalist. But he lacks the depth of expression which, as Mahal conclusively demonstrates, comes only with

RIDE Tarantula

(Creation CRECD 180)

IT SEEMS hard to believe now, but before Oasis came along Ride were one of the Creation label's brightest hopes. Six years down the line and royally outclassed by the bands of the Britpop revolution, the Oxford quartet have wisely called it a day.

Their final album, Tarantula, which they have decided to delete just one week after its release, is the usual mixture of retro guitar riffs and personality-free harmony vocals shoring up carefully structured but strangely unmemorable tunes.

More than once, the lyrics betray some of the disillusionment that must have seeped into their hearts during the final months: "Drinking in a hotel room. I hate what I've become/I'm turning back to nothing, all my dreams have come undone." It's a sorry end to a promising career, and not an especially good album either.



the news that Imelda Marcos owns lots of shoes on Golden Heart

TOP TEN NOW A BUMS

(What's the Story) Morning Glory?..... Oasis (Creation Second Toughest in the Infants Underworld (Junior Boy's Own) Nectar Maste Tarantuia. Ride (Creation Expecting to Fly. Bluetones (Superior Quality) Biork (One Little India Paranoid & Sunburnt... ... Skunk Anansie (One Little India Black Love...

... Echobelly (Fauve) From today, we are expanding our service to include specialist as well as general charts. Next week, look out for the Dance Top Ten. © CIN

ENTERTAINMENTS

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LUNGINO



POP 4

From local hero to world star. how Nusrat Fatch Ali Khan won a global audience for Qawwali music



POP 5

Cast reveal how to meet aliens, write hippy lyrics, and still get into the Top 20



David Toop meets Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, ubiquitous superstar of world music



POP 6

If you want to hear a German woman called Billie Ray sing soul, Miss Martin's here



■ TOMORROW

Isabelle Huppert makes her British stage debut: read Benedict Nightingale's

Beats with steel

THE world of pop is not over-enlowed with German sing-er who adopt country cliche names and display a penchant fo soulful ballads and mod-en dance beats. This is, in fai, a category with only one number: Billie Ray Martin.

Her eccentric road to fame led her last year to the hit Your Dving Arms, a song that won both a solid dance-floor folliwing and critical credibility. the latter partly because of her early associations with Electibe 101 and the Grid.

But it was the mixture of ocal passion and pulsing hythms that guaranteed the ong its success, and her live how follows the same formua. From the opening Hands Up and Amen to the final You and I (Keep Holding On), her voice takes us back to the

Billie Ray Martin UEA, Norwich

1960s sounds of Stax and Atlantic, while the drum sound whisks us forward into contemporary clubland.

Not that it is quite this simple. Her dress - a black number slit to the waist, and embellished by a silver-ringed belt - bears the mark of early 1970s disco, as do her strictly choreographed dance routines. Her singing, meanwhile conjures up the dignified gospel of Aretha Franklin and the bare emotion of Lorraine Ellison. On Deadline for my Memories, she beraled unseen lovers, her voice swooping from resentful anger to desperate pleading. And below all this rumbled the lechno beats.

Martin added one further ingredient to her distinctive musical concoction: a pedal steel guitar. It joined the kerboards, percussion and backing singer that made up the rest of her band. So the gently rolling Still Waters, its swooning guitar trills, sounded as if it were emerging from a fortuitously mistuned railio picking up several stations at once.

Decasionally she appeared tollose interest — her big hit was treated perfunctorily. But mostly she was enthralling. and she managed to fashion a quirky, inspired order out of her highly personal collection

JOHN STREET | Killers.

After the likes of Peter Gabriel and Eddie Vedder, Canadian Michael Brook is the latest westerner to call on Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan's magic Best all-rounder since Botham?

caught up in the grip of musical ecstasy. Chanting and dancing, they are anticipating the arrival on stage of Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, the 47-yearold singer currently making the transition from national treasure to worldwide celebrity. The following day, still reel-All around me, men and women have been falling into trances, the wilder ones being dragged out of the arena by reserved groups of soldiers. Now the and build-up to the main event begins in time-honoured fashon. "The great music star in ed day and night by a uni-Pakistan," bellows the MC. who then launches into a list of formed guard armed with a machinegun. Inside, the some of the films that have

hore, 10,000 specta-

tors throng the

circular Gaddafi Stadium, all

Nusrat's devotional

songs in unlikely and some-

times controversial settings:

The Last Temptation of

Christ, Dead Man Walking,

Bandit Queen, Natural Born

I'VE SEEN THE HISTORY OF

ROCK 'N ROLL ...

and the shrilling of mobile ing from the intensity of the phones, the peaceful atmoconcert, I attempt to find some sphere offers a respite from the logic in the many contradicnoise barrage of car horns that raised by the congenial, rotund For many years, Nusrat was Khansahib. Nusrat lives in the a frequent flier, performing expensive Lahore suburb of concerts and recording cassettes for Pakistani and Indian Faisal Town, his house guardfans living in all corners of the

Peter Gabriel's Real World music room walls are hung Records and the with photographs of Nusrat in Womad Festival, the company of rock star Peter however, saw a new phase in his Gabriel, the inevitable Imran Khan, General Zia and other career. World notables. Despite random power cuts, constant visitors music's audiences were stunned by the passion and en-

globe. His association with

6 I have the

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ergy of Qawwali, music form of which Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan is regarded as the greatest living exponent. For a while.

Peter Gabriel's commitment to Nusrat seemed almost an indulgence. Now, the steady Pearl Jam's Eddie Vedder have been acclaimed in Ameri-Song, the new album protions can survive and develop without compromise in the

Brook says. "He's not exactly spreading the word, but he's spreading the sacred music. There's no such thing as bad

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Nonetheless. Nusrat is discerning about his collaborations. He sings with consistent fervour and astonishing tech-

his music that I purchase at Karachi airport turns out be a fairly resistible home-grown hybrid of lugubrious synthetic strings and crude drum machine programming. Perhaps one of the keys to this versatility is the Sufi religion itself. Qawwali is

a musical and poetic expression of Sufism, the mystical and, in certain respects. relatively liberal branch of Islam. The aim of the music is to elevate the audience to a spiritual plane. To this end, there is no substitute for

hearing Qaw-wall in concert. For the boisterous crowd in Gaddafi Stadi-um, Nusrat and his group of

pace, the ecstatic repetitions burning on a longer fuse. One question arises without fail when religious music is performed to audiences from other faiths or no faith at all. What can the music possibly mean when it is plucked out of its natural context?

"The message of Qawwali is not only for Muslims," Nusrat says. "There have been very great people in all religions. Christians, Hindus, Sikhs, they all had good Sufis. The message of the Sufis is the same -- how to reach to God -but they all have different

So Sufism can be seen as a flexible, humanitarian belief system that sits at the core of a variety of religious practices, Nusrat appears to be applying this attitude to music, using his rhythmic and melodic virtuosity over Massive Attack's urban dub or Bally Sagoo's Asian hip-hop. The integrity stays intact because he is able to convey an unusual intensity of feeling to audiences, no matter how wide the linguistic and cultur-

In Pakistan, tension is τife. At one extreme is satellite television, featuring a flood of increasingly erotic film music clins from India: at the other extreme, the hardline mullahs condemn all singing and dancing as contrary to Islamic beliefs. With unshakeable devotion to the idea of music as spiritual expression, Nusrat sails on a wave of global popularity through these hazardous waters. As an improviser, he ranks alongside jazz greats such as John Coltrane, but his chameleon-like ability

music-making. "What I have to do is ensure that the beauty of the work does not get destroyed," he says, "but at the same time the new generation gets the message too. That is a lot of work." Night Song is released on Mon-

Power and the morning glory

A fledgeling Oasis with hippy lyrics and a space cadet at the

wheel — Cast achieve perfection

Cope makes up words, One of his best was "drude", a cross between "dru-id" and "dude". It's a highly appreciative term for those who are spiritually cool; who are plugged into their souls and attempt to broadcast some kind of higher consciousness.

n his spare time, Julian

Cast's John Power is most certainly a drude. His songs tackle subjects pop has ig-nored since the 1960s — the importance of being in touch with the land, at one with humanity, and constantly seeking a higher truth. Any kind of spirituality has been embarrassed out of pop since punk put cynicism and nihil-ism top of the agenda, dismissing any attempt at widening pop's reach as "hippy rub-bish". That Cast have man-

aged to write almost exclusively about "hippy" topics and still had a brace of Top 20 singles and a No I album is a tribute to Power's almost

CAITLIN

MORAN

uncanny ability to write searing, dizzily harmonic choruses that remind one of the fledgeling Oasis. But it's this tradi-

tional rock element that has so vexed Cast's detractors. Their debut album, All Change, con-tains four fine singles and the sensuously epic His-

tory, but still seems too earthbound, too four-square and regular to convey the thrill of Power's singular talent. The first time I heard Cast as they should be was in a tiny, boxlike room in Manchester. A DJ, engineer and the band were also squeezed into what was, essentially, a converted shower cubicle, but Cast sang out so sweet and loud that I thought my skin would swear sheet gold as I soaked it up from 4ft away. There was something wide and joyful here, the kind of music that aerates the blood and puts electricity in the skin. However, on record it generally sounds like six dustmen throwing the band into a pit.

"Ah, I wrote that album four years ago," Power sighs, stretching out on his hotel bed and drinking thirstily from a bottle of water. "The songs I was writing were a cry for attention, a declaration of intent. I'm still learning. None of us really knows that much about playing instruments, and writing songs is a difficult thing that you gradually master — I still don't quite know

where to go to find the songs. You find that if you induce certain moods in yourself. then the music will come. But it's like mental exercise, you have to work up slowly, or you'll break your brain." He giggles, a Liverpudlian gurgle that breaks into a joyful yelp

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Another subject that has riven Cast's detractors a field day is Power's almost unequalled qualifications as King of the Space Cadets. On top of his hippy lyrics and almost surreal back-to-theland monologues (I'm vegetarian, but if I killed the pig myself, I'd be more inclined to eat meat - you know, if you kill it yourself that shows respect"). Power has also had a run-in with aliens.

"I don't really care if anyone believes me or not," he says. "I was lying in bed, and I felt a presence, and a raspy voice in my ear said: 'Human'. That's it, really." He shrugs. "People

say I'm off my head, but there still isn't an internationally agreed system of measuring sanity, so how would they know? "Maybe it's the

drugs. I think taking hallucinogens is essential to human evolution — there was that piece in The Sunday Times recently that sug-

gested that the reason we all evolved from apes into human beings was that tribes of apes migrated through Africa towards Europe, and ate their way through fields of magic mushrooms on the way. And it was the hallucinations that triggered the creative developments in our brains.

"I've stopped taking acid now, though," he adds. "It was doing my head in."

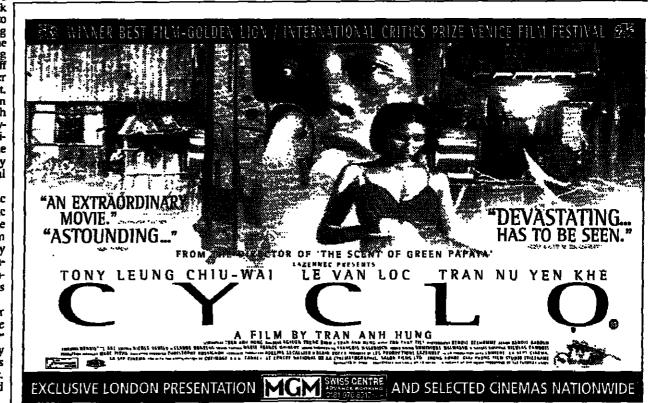
Now he gets his highs more naturally. When this band started, I was living in a huge, broken house in Sefton Park, Liverpool — the landlord was mad, he just forgot to charge us rent. We used to rehearse in the front room, hours on end writing songs, working out what we wanted to say. And I'd feel so happy imagining what it would be like to play these songs to people, and have them understand.

"And tonight, I played those same sones to 2,000 people and more than half of them knew. I could see it in their eyes. And that makes me the happiest man in the world." ● The single, Walkaway, is re-leased on Monday by Polydor



The die is Cast: a sound "so sweet and loud that I thought my skin would sweat sheet gold as I soaked it up





EDUCATION

John O'Leary introduces The Times five-day guide, starting on Monday, to your child's progress through the national curriculum

fter eight years of planning. piloting and arguing, the A Government's testing programme in schools will be fully implemented this spring. Almost two million pupils aged seven, 11 and 14, will have their progress through the national curriculum assessed. Parents will find out how their children are doing and, for the first time, there will be some measure of primary schools' performance.

Teachers' acceptance of the tests (grudging or otherwise) has altered the climate in schools to such an extent that revision sessions are becoming commonplace. A daily series in The Times next week will enable parents to play their part in the process.

Many families remain baffled by the tests, unsure whether they matter to their children's future and taken aback by the unfamiliar until then. The results can offer

Parent primer for the classroom tests

age groups, the aim is to identify strengths and weaknesses, rather than to aid selection. But, in schools where any form of streaming is in operation, the results may

influence future grouping.

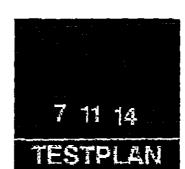
Most II-year-olds will be left in no doubt of the importance of the results to their school because they will be used to compile the first primary school league tables. The rankings, which will be published early next year, may prove highly influential in parents' choices of school.

For 14-year-olds, the tests are designed to be a step on the way to GCSE — for many the nearest they will come to a formal examination nature of the papers. For all three reassurance or a warning signal.

Testplan will provide sample questions from last year's tests, with tips from teachers on what to expect and how best to prepare. The series will help parents to put the results in context, unravelling the national curriculum's assessment system and showing how pupils fared last year.

For the newest tests, at 11. The Times has joined forces with the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority (SCAA) to produce three books of sample questions and advice. The separate books on English, mathematics and science are published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

The II-year-olds will be the first to have taken more than one set of



among the assessment pioneers at the age of seven. The results should be a guide to their progress during the years of junior school.

The tests have been the most controversial element of the Government's school reforms launched in 1988. Criticised when

year-olds - and boycotted when the process reached secondary schools - national assessment is still unpopular among teachers.

Recent research among members of the generally moderate Association of Teachers and Lecturers showed that most staff still resented the time spent on last year's tests. Few felt that they revealed anything new about their pupils and there was a general belief that teachers' own assessments were undervalued.

There is little likelihood of further resistance from the teaching profession next term, however, when the tests are scheduled to take place. Although the National Union of Teachers is to debate a

they were introduced for seven- motion at its annual conference. demanding that the boycort is restored, the union's rules make action improbable.

Other unions, though unhappy with the introduction of more league tables, and critical of some of last year's marking, are not contemplating industrial action. More than 90 per cent of schools set the tests and reported the results in 1995, and the SCAA expects the proportion to rise again

in May. Ministers' original testing plans have been scaled down in line with the curriculum itself. As a result, the tests are limited to the core subjects of English, mathematics and science, with seven-year-olds assessed entirely by their teachers.

The papers have been designed to mirror classroom activity whle concentrating on key areas. Tie first run of Testplan, last year, w.s welcomed by the SCAA as an encouragement to parents to itvolve themselves in their chidren's preparation. The signs are that this trend will accelerate in the weeks ahead.

Some relaxed familiarisation with the tests, using the sample questions to be published nex week, should help pupils and reassure parents. The series be gins on Monday with a timetable of this year's tests and a look at what will be expected of sevenyear-olds. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday will focus on Ilyear-olds, with Friday devoted to the tests at 14.

The Parents' Guide to National Tests, published by HMSO, on sale at E4.95 each for English, mathematics and

Launchpad for a life in politics

The NUS presidency is a breeding ground for rising stars of new Labour, says David Charter

You appear on Newsnight, the Today programme and Ques-tion Time. You have to chair an annual conference of 2,000 rowdy delegates and manage a staff of 80. Occa-sionally you have to light de-portations, or debate with government ministers. All by the time you are 25. No wonder the presidency of the National Union of Students is a breeding ground for new MPs.

The "mainstreaming" of the student movement is also evident from the progression of recent leaders who would once have espoused radical communism but now advocate new Labour. Four of the last six presidents are being lined up by the party for seats at the next general election.

They hope to emulate Jack Straw, the NUS's most auspicious old boy, who has risen from the presidency in 1969-71 to become Shadow Home

Mr Straw's stewardship of he NUS is remembered for his attempts to make the union a serious political force by opposing calls for violent action after the 1968 French student revolt. In this sense. the class of 96 are his true heirs. The NUS has at times been a refuge for extremists. but recent presidents, who since 1982 have all been Labour supporters, have tried to stamp out the sit-in mentality.

They include the current in-

who has yet to complete his law and politics degree at Strathclyde University but, at 28, is on the shortlist to fight Glasgow Eastwood. His predecessor Lorna Fitzsimons, also 28, has four rivals for the Labour ticket in Rochdale.

She succeeded Stephen Twigg, who at 29 has been selected to fight against Michael Portillo in Enfield Southgate. Phil Woolas, holder of the office in 1984-86, is now a full-time officer for the GMB union. After one disappointment at the polls, in the Littleborough and Saddle-

> 'It's an experience most people don't get till they're 50'

worth by-election, he has bounced back to win the nomination to fight the reorganised constituency in the same area.

These are merely the politically successful ones. Not one president since Straw has failed to progress to a high profile career, often with a dash of politics thrown in.

Take Sue Slipman, for example, president in 1977-78 cumbent, Jim Murphy, a Scot and the first female leader of

the NUS. A staunch member of the Communist Party while in office. Slipman changed her clothes to become a founder member of the short-lived Social Democratic Party. As an SDP candidate she fought unsuccessfully in two general elections - 1983 (in Basildon) and 1987 (Hayes and Harlington) - before renouncing party politics upon the merger of er party with the Liberals.

Ms Slipman, who ran the National Council for One Parent Families before becoming director of the London Training and Enterprise Council last year, is in no doubt why the top job in the student movement makes for budding MPs and high-profile person-

"Being NUS president is the most enormously enriching experience in which, at a very young age, you get to run an organisation which employs a large number of people, run a conference of 2,000 screaming Trotskyists, and negotiate gives you a position most people do not normally get to until they are in their fifties."

This helps to explain why NUS presidents achieve success early in life. Several have made their mark in the media.

David Aaronovitch (president 1980-82) reached the top of the BBC's home affairs department before becoming a writer for The Independent. Trevor Phillips (the first black president in (978-80) became a



Jack Straw, in 1970, opposed violent NUS action; Jim Murphy, top, and Stephen Twigg could be his natural heirs

resenter at London Weekend Television and rose to become head of current affairs before going freelance.

Maeve Sherlock (president 1988-90) runs Ukcosa, an organisation which represents the interests of overseas students. Vicky Phillips (1986-88) is a solicitor after a stint as nat-

ional women's officer at Labour Party headquarters. John Randall (1973-75) worked for a large public service union before becoming director of professional standards at the Law Society. Digby Jacks (1971-73) became an official with the MSF union after a brief teaching career.

But it is in politics that NUS presidents seem destined to make their most public mark. Neil Stewart (1982-84) worked for the former Labour leader Neil Kinnock from 1989 to 1992 and now runs his own conference, events and PR firm in London. Charles Clarke (president 1975-77), who was a

Kinnock aide for nine years, also runs a PR firm in the capital. Both men have been seeking Labour seats but so far without success - Mr Stewart missed out on Aberdeen at Christmas.

Lorna Fitzsimons (1992-94) is now a political consultant for a lobbying company in London. She believes har chances of winning Rochdal: if selected, are high because if her track record in defeating the Conservatives.

In my time in office, the Government tried to shut u: down and we were the only Labour-led collective organis ation to defeat them in I. years," she says.

She agrees recent presidents have been on the "soft Left" and is right behind the current drive to convince students that they have to pay for higher education through a fairer loan system.

tephen Twigg (president 1990-92) seems to have amassed the clas-sic CV in preparation for a new Labour seat in the Commons. He was elected to Islington council, in north London, within days of stepping down from the NUS presidency. Currently the Labour Party whip on the council, he is in a three-way contest for the leadership which will be decided next month.

Mr Twigg worked as parlia-mentary officer for Annesty International and then for the National Council for Veluntary Organisations, before becoming an aide to Margaret Hodge, MP, in 1994. He has just left to work alongside Ms

"I joined the Labour Party at 15," he says. "The presidency put you through just about every political situation you will ever have to face."

The heir apparent at this takes place next week in Blackpool, is another Scot, Douglas Trainer, the current president of NUS Scotland. He is the official Labour Student candidate for NUS presidency. Does he too aspire to reach Westminster?

"I think the career paths of my predecessors are very nteresting but my main focus at the moment is to take NUS That's what they all said at 25.

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Jonathan Sale continues his series on university days

t was a scene as ominous as any in the Ruth Rendell Mysteries which Janet Suzman has been filming for ITV. And it was real. A student at Witwatersrand University in South Africa during the late 1950s, Ms Suzman had an encounter with a man from the South African Special Branch. It was neither her work nor her acting that he wanted to discuss. "He had a thick file marked

with my name," she recalls. "He turned the pages slowly and I read them upside down. They had everywhere I'd been and everyone I'd spoken to. I was interviewed, not to say interrogated."

The secret policeman homed in on her planned journey to Europe. "My father said I should get visas for every country under the flightpath in case the plane came down. The Special Branch didn't like the idea of all these visas to African countries." Mozambique, a centre for gun-running, caused particular concern. Ms Suzman was not guilty as charged - in fact, she was not charged with anything - but she had always known that her cards were marked: for a start, she was the niece of Helen Suzman, the MP in lonely opposition to the Nationalist Government.

"In many respects it was a good time at 'Wits': life was full of interest and everybody was politically involved. But it was a very troubled time, a very bad time for the university. There was quite a lot of violence on the campus. It was packed with spies; poor students who needed a bit of money infiltrated the campus to report back to the Special Branch — 'The Greys' — and student cars were followed

everywhere." Racially mixed Witwatersrand was humming with opposition to the Extension of University Education Bill.



Acting as the Bad Student of Wits

When this became an Act in 1959, it sliced higher education into racial ghettos. "Known not affectionately - as the Academic Apartheid Bill, this was a massive blow to academic freedom. I didn't know at the beginning that I was going to leave South Africa but became clear that this was the final straw.

Te were marching all the time, with banners saying 'Knowledge is colour-blind'. For two out of the three years I don't recall studying at all. It was an education in life rather than English and French, the subjects I was meant to be studying. Lectures seemed to Bad Student of Witwatersget in the way of demonstra- rand".

tions." Although a member of the dramatic society, she did not see herself as a budding actress. Yet her time on stage was not wasted: "I was so bad that it was going to be neces-sary to study this thing called acting.
It was a sense of curiosity

rather than overflowing ambition that brought me to drama school in London. We did a production of Love's Labour's Lost on Vespas, There was a production of Julius Caesar on the steps of the Neo-Classical Main Hall: for some reason I played Calpurnia as an Indian, in a shocking pink sari."

She made her exit immediately after her finals. "The exams were held in temporary huts built during the war There was no air-conditioning and the temperature was in the 90s and 100s; you had to wipe your hand on your clothes before writing so that your pen didn't slip out of your fingers."

Then she was off. Her flight,

the visas for which had so upset the Special Branch, was a round-trip of Europe's culqualities." tural hotspots organised by the fine arts faculty. For her, it was a one-way ticket. She has been back to university, this time as Visiting Professor at Westfield College,

as it then was, in London. Her interview. career as one of Britain's leading actresses has not prevented frequent visits to her homeland - "South Africa is so deep in my blood I have never lost my passion for it" -and it was there that she directed a play for the first time. She leaves in May to direct her latest production. Brecht's Good Woman of Setzuan: shifted to a South African setting, it is retitled The Good Woman of Sharkville. Any former secret prepared." Many schools claim they policemen in the audience will remember the director as "The

We don't want bores Universities

level exams, gaining the highest grades, are being rejected by universities because they lack social skills, says

One Cambridge tutor says: "We had to turn down one bright scientist this year He could talk about nothing but horses."

ixth-formers who have sailed through their A-

Admissions tutors at Oxford and Cambridge have three or more applicants for each place (seven in veterinary science this year) and they have to find a way of selecting one. Another tutor says: "It

would be a refreshing change if schools told us occasionally about a minus point, such as possible nervousness at an interview. This could be quite helpful in the case of an outstanding candidate whose interview performance might detract from his or her other

Most schools are so busy dealing with their overriding importance of academic achievement that they tend to ignore the vital element in the selection process -- the

One tutor's report read: "He found the topic very difficult to handle and couldn't finish the questions. When coached further, he still found the whole questions baffling. His understanding of the physical basis of the concept discussed was rather simplistic and did not equip him to extend his reasoning to more complex situations. I feel he had been very poorly

give mock interviews, although this usually means acy and literacy are also

demand social

Brian Heap

the student sitting across the table from a sympathetic, friendly teacher, unwilling to subject pupils to unfriendly

But at Bryanston, the Dorset independent school, evuniversity applicant faces an interview of half an hour with one or two outsiders, specialists in their subjects, with a video camera filming them. This is followed by a debriefing to

'One language applicant didn't know a noun from a verb'

highlight weaknesses. The aim is not to try to prime the student for the perfect interview but to eliminate any obvious failings.

Questionnaires completed by admissions tutors provide useful insight into why students are spurned for non-academic reasons. One pointer is "lack of breadth of interests", for example on animal issues for veterinary science, and on social topics for applied social studies or social administration courses.

Business studies dons mention "lack of commercial interest and experience while weaknesses in numer-

cited as common failings, along with the inability to work in a team or take an active part in project discussions. Complaints are legion about poor communication skills, imperfect English and bad spelling on forms, with one language applicant not knowing the difference between a noun and a verb.

Lack of motivation and drive are also featured in some tutors' comments. One complained: "Some applicants aren't hungry enough." Others criticise pupils who "just dream about being lawyers".

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The ability to manage one's time is also given as a priority as well as the ability to pick yourself up at an interview after a difficult start". Typical complaints reflect

their subject areas. In drama, for example, they complain about immaturity, poor interpersonal skills and lack of ability to respond to a challenge. Some applicants are badly advised at the outset. One boy arrived for a philosophy interview and asked the admissions panel to consider him for sports studies.

t the end of the day tutors seek several Aqualities and will reject the applicant who is unable to cope with questions about their studies.

As one said: "We look for interviewees who respond positively to ideas, who can think on their feet, who can intelligently engage with critical issues and sustain an argument. If they don't evince any of these qualities. then we reject them."

Brian Heap is the author of Degree Course Offers (Troiman, 115.95). POSTS

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of ten days a year. Meetings take place in Ealing

positions are unsalaried. The Board is under represented by women and ethnic minorities and welcomes applications from candidates in both of these categories.

and Slough and travel expenses are paid. The

If you are interested in joining Thames Valley University's Board of Governors and would like to receive an information pack and details of how to apply, write to:

Mary Joyce. Secretary to the University & Clerk to the Board of Governors, Thames Valley University

Unit 3, Ealing Green,

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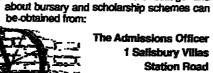
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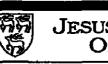
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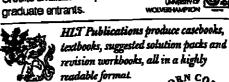
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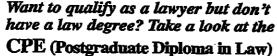
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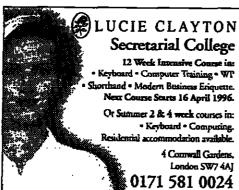


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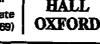
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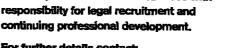
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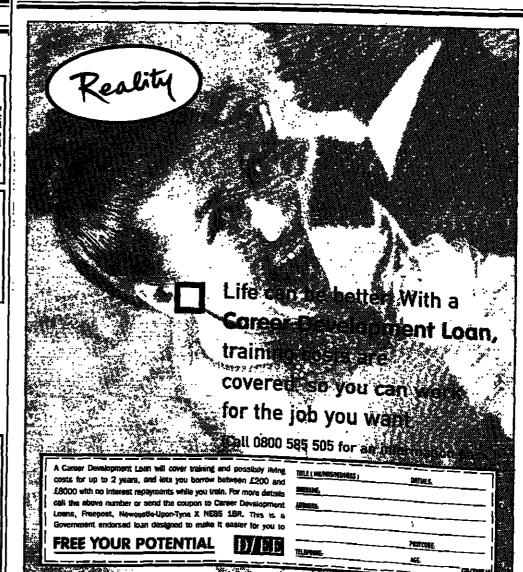


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11

Preparation for Life

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Leeds find solace in four-year sponsorship deal

LEEDS United quickly found consolation for their FA Cup defeat on Wednesday by Liverpool. Yesterday, they announced a new four-year sponsorship from Packard Bell to replace their existing deal with Thistle Hotels, which expires in the summer. "It is a tremendous relief." Bill Fotherby, the Leeds managing director, said. "It is the second largest sponsorship in the Premiership."

Leeds refused to give figures and although sources put the figure at £4 million over the four years, that is not consisient with Fotherby's claim, as Liverpool, Manchester United and Arsenal are believed to get sums well in excess of that. The defeat of Leeds at

Anfield was as comprehensive as the 3-0 scoreline suggests. Robbie Fowler and Stan Collymore have received most of the attention recently, but Steve McManaman has been a key figure in their flowing attacks, and on Wednesday he took centre stage with two

"By ten to eight I thought that the best thing that could happen to us would be an injury to Steve McManaman," Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, said yesterday as he prepared to lift his shaken team for the Coca-Cola Cup Final against Aston Villa on Sunday. Although Ford was booked for a fierce tackle on McManaman, the Liverpool forward shook off its

effects and tormented Leeds. Liverpool now meet Aston Villa at Old Trafford, while Chelsea qualified to meet Manchester United in the other semi-final with a resolute 3-1 victory against Wimbledon. The tie was in the balance until the closing minutes, when Chelsea's third made the win appear deceptively easy.

Having already beaten Newcastle United, also after failing to turn home advantage to account in the original tie, and with Manchester United to face at Villa Park and then either Liverpool or Villa in the final, Chelsea will deserve their success if they win the trophy. "We are certainly doing things the hard way. Glenn Hoddle, their manager, conceded.

A misleading scoreline was not only to be seen at Selhurst



Revised semi-final draw Manchester United v Cheise (at VBa Park, March 31, 130)

Park. Manchester United drew level on points with Newcastle at the top of the FA Carling Premiership by beating Arsenal I-0, but as Bruce Rioch, the Arsenal manager admitted, the score did scant justice to United's football. "It was a comprehensive I-0 victory," Rioch said.

Once again, Eric Cantona produced the goal that mattered, his ninth in the past Il games, almost all of them decisive ones, but few as spectacular as the dipping volley on Wednesday. "He's every player you could wish for," Gary Neville, Cantona's team-mate, enthused. "He can be a target man, he can drop

an inspiration. "Eric is a legend, and the young lads absolutely love him. We look up to him. When he does what he did last night, you realise his importance to us. He is easy to play with you just give him the ball as often as you can and he'll work wonders with it."

off, he can pass, score goals.

Eric can do everything. He is

But if Cantona took the eye. Roy Keane was not far behind, and the Neville brothers celebrated their England call-ups with aplomb. "It's a dream come true for us," Gary said. "As youngsters, to come here to watch United play was our dream; then even to get a game for them was our dream, so this is unbelievable. It has been a dramatic rise for us both. If Philip Neville wins an

England cap, they will become the twentieth pair of brothers to play for England, but another record is beckening. If United win the championship, they will be the first pair of brothers to win championship medals in the same team. "It would be nice — but there are seven games left, and we've got to win those seven," Gary

☐ The Scottish Football Association (SFA) has launched an inquiry into a fracas involving several players which took place at the end of the first division promotion encounter between Morton and Dunfermline at Cappielow Park on Tuesday. Bobby Orr, the referee, has filed his report to the SFA on the incident, which followed an injury-time equaliser by Morton. An SFA official confirmed yesterday: "We will put the matter in front of the disciplinary committee in May,"

Dynamic new look for Olympics

إ صكدا من الاصل



swimwear is the most advanced technological equipment. Therefore not to allow the swimmers to wear it might temporarily affect their performances

The athletes' kit is the product of three years' research by Adidas designed to find something to wear in temperatures that are expected to reach 30C. Du'aine Ladejo, the winner of the 400 metres gold medal at the recent European indoor championships, said: The designers have taken account of our needs and have come up with something that's very comfortable, especially as it takes up the sweat. The

design is also very striking, which suits me because I like to make an impact." The secret of the swimmers' Aquablade lies in its stripes, which are liternately smooth and rough to the touch, the rough side resin-coated.

Water passes over the alternate stripes at different speeds, helping to reduce turbulence and drag. Despite its revolutionary design, the Aquablade leg suit, covering more of the body than any other suit in the modern era. evokes memories of the 1920s and Johnny Weissmuller, when full-body suits were compulsory on

Walker gets

the point

of change

CHRIS WALKER found the

to his liking in the Equitable

Life Super Series squash finals

at The Galleria, Hatfield, yes

terday (Colin McQuillan writes). The England captain

took just 51 minutes to over-

turn Rodney Eyles, the world

No 2, from Australia, 4-9, 10-8,

2-9, 9-5, 10-8, in the opening

match of the round-robin

qualifying phase in the Per-

spex showcourt in the shop-

"It was pretty much of a

non-stop sprint out there, but

that suits my game," said Walker, the world No 7, from

Colchester, who alo upset

Eyles when they met on an

outdoor court last November

in the Mahindra Challenge in

ping centre's main plaza.

grounds of decency.

IN BRIEF

Uefa calls a halt to European Cup move

UEFA, the governing body of European football, decided yesterday to make no significant changes to the format of the European Cup next season, despite calls for the competition to be expanded. An increase in the number of participating teams has not been ruled out for future seasons, however.

Under a plan discussed in February, the competition could be expanded from 24 to 32 teams, allowing nations such as Italy, Spain, England and Germany, to enter an extra team. Yesterday, it was agreed that recent results would be the most relevant criteria for qualification, rather than wealth or prestige.

RAF winged

Hockey: The Royal Navy unexpectedly defeated the Royal Air Force 2-0 in the services championship at Aldershot vesterday after losing 3-0 to the Army on the previous day. The RAF must now record a six-goal margin of victory today against the Army to keep its title.

Simon Hazlitt, who is injured, will be replaced by Soma Singh, of Southgate, in the England side for the international match against India at Milton Keynes on

Hamed's targets

Boxing: Naseem Hamed, the World Boxing Organisation featherweight champion, from Sheffield, will defend his title against either Daniel Alicea, of Puerto Rico, or Tom Johnson, of the United States, the International Boxing Federation champion, ir. May or early June. Hamed will then seek the World Boxing Council super-featherweight title held by Azumah Nelson.

Hicks hiccup

Snooker: Andy Hicks, a semifinalist at the Embassy world championship 12 months ago, was heading for defeat yester-day in the final qualifying round of this year's event, at Telford. He trailed Jimmy Michie, of Pontefract, 7-2 in a best-of-19 frame encounter.

Britons blocked

Tennis: Danny Sapsford and Nick Gould, of Britain, were both beaten in the final qualifying round of the Lipton Championships at Key Biscayne. Florida, yesterday. Sapsford went down 7-5, 6-1 to Grant Stafford, of South Africa, while Gould was beaten 6-2, 6-3 by David Di Lucia, of the United States.

Icemen cometh

Ice hockey: Peter Woods, the Britain coach, has named a 23man squad for the world championship match against Holland, in Eindhoven, next month. Most have been involved in this season's Olympic qualifying games and, as ever, the squad is dominated by Canadian-born players.

Slalom success

Skiing: Alain Baxter, the 1993 statom winner and overall men's champion, regained the slalom title yesterday at the British Land national championships in Tignes, France.

Angus triumphs

Real tennis: The former world champion. Howard Angus. overcame John Ward 6-3, 2-6, 6-0 to win the British Land national over-50s championship at Hatfield House.

Hardcastle books Olympic return

By Craig Lord

WHEN Sarah Hardcastle last tasted Olympic success, she was 15. Margaret Thatcher had just swept to a second general election victory on the tide of patriotic fervour that followed the Falklands War and Big Brother ruled on behind the Iron Curtain. The year was 1984.

Yesterday, however, the teenage winner of silver and hronze medals at Los Angeles booked a return trip to the Olympics and the United States to race for Britain at the Atlanta Games in the 400 metres medley.

Describing herself as a "wise old woman". Hardcastle, 26 and married, said: It means a lot more to me this time. I appreciate how hard it has been to make it."

Her victory, in 4min 51.07sec, at the Olympic trials in Sheffield, was a bold one. Having been led by Lucy Findlay, of Wycombe, for much of a race that comes second in priority to her distance freestyle events. Hardcastle broke down the deficit in the final freestyle leg.

"It hurt so much, I was nearly sick," Hardcastle, who goes to Atlanta as the only Briton with an international title (world short-course 800 metres freestyle) to her name. said. She was one of 12 swimmers to qualify.

Like Hardcastle, Richard Maden, of Rochdale Agua bears, had taken a break from the sport while at university in Leeds. It served him well. After winning the 100 metres breaststroke in 1min 02.76, a personal best, the 23-year-old now carries the weight of a considerable British tradition on his shoulders. Before him in this event have gone David Wilkie, Duncan Goodhew and Adrian Moorhouse.

Nick Gillingham swam the heats yesterday but withdrew from the final, his intention being to swim only the 200 metres breaststroke in Atlanta. In the 200 metres freestyle. Paul Palmer drew Andrew Clayton below Imin 50sec for the first time and both duly aualified.

Expect a metronomic pace from Palmer in his best events (400 metres and 1,500 metres freestyle) over the next two days: he yesterday revealed that he trains with a metronome ticking in his ear beneath his cap. The machine sets the pace that Palmer must produce for an Olympic medal.

Karen Pickering and Susan Rolph will represent Britain in the women's 100 metres freestyle. Pickering's 55.85sec victory yesterday was just 0.06 outside her own British record.

Main's chance of redemption building an unenviable reput-

jumper and heptathlete, modelling the

Adidas kit that the Great Britain team

will wear at the Olympic Games in

Atlanta this summer when the range

was launched at a reception in London

Meanwhile, in Sheffield, before the

start of the Olympic trials, swimmers

were showing off the Speedo

Aquablade, above left, that Adidas has

agreed to allow them to wear. Art

official said: "The British Olympic

Association has accepted detailed rep-

resentations from the Amateur Swirn-

ming Federation that the Speedo

IN EDMONTON, CANADA

STEPHANIE MAIN, the holder of the British title, has the chance to redeem her reputation at the ice skating world championships here today after a wretched performance in the qualifying competition on Monday.

She has an unfavourable draw in the short programme, however, as she follows two crowd-pleasers - Midori Ito, of Japan, the 1989 world champion, and the gifted Tara Lipinski, 13. of the United States - and skates before Lu Chen, of China, the world title-Judged solely on what hap-

pened on Monday, Main is out of her depth in this company, but since then it has been encouraging to see her in ers. He will, therefore, have

practice, producing triple jump after triple with aplomb. Since her basic skating has a textbook quality, there is still no reason she should not do well, if the spirit moves her and her Scottish heart stays strong.

vesterday.

Michelle Kwan, 15, is widely regarded as the favourite, despite her tender years. She is drawn, advantageously, much later, in the company of Irina Slutskaya, of Russia, the European champion, and Surya Bonaly, of France, who was deposed by Slutskaya this season after a five-year reign.

Steven Cousins has a good draw in the final of the men's event. The British champion, thanks to his excellent fifth place in the short programme. is in the final group and skates last but one of the 24 qualifithe advantage of knowing what he has to do if there is the chance of a medal. Last of all comes Ilia Kulik, of Russia, the leader after the

short programme. By contrast. Neil Wilson, from Belfast, has to skate first, immediately after the warmup, which may suit him as he will not have a nervous wait for his turn.

On Wednesday night, the pairs title was lost rather than won, since none of the couples in the final group could produce a programme free of error. Marina Eltsova and Andrei Bushkov committed fewer mistakes than their opponents and so provided Russia with yet another world title in this discipline.

They exchanged places with Mandy Woetzel and Ingo Steuer, of Germany, who are

ation of prospering in the short programme only to go to pieces in the final. They started strongly but could not stay the pace. The bronze medals, surpris-

ingly, went to Jenni Meno and Todd Sand, of the United States, who climbed from fifth place above the other two Russian pairs. Britain can claim some vicarious credit here, since the newly-wed Sands are trained by John Nicks, an expatriate who has now settled in California.

The British champions, Lesley Rogers and Michael Aldred, fared badly. A cata-

logue of errors, mostly on the part of Rogers, produced a string of poor marks, one as low as 3.8. Somehow, they managed to hold on to sixteenth place.

Lindsay challenged over rebel league yesterday forfeited matches in the delayed opening round this weekend. It means

By Christopher Irvine

THE Australian Rugby League (ARL) is bringing a court action today to prevent Maurice Lindsay, the chief executive of the Rugby Football League (RFL) in England, playing any further part in the setting up of a rebel Global League competition.

Lindsay announced the establishment of the Global League in Sydney on Wednesday. It is to be run by the 311 players who signed for the outlawed Super League in Australia and who are refusing to play under the ARL banner.

The ARL is also to seek an injunction to prevent the Global League kicking off next Friday, the same day the European Super League launches. "There is a separate action against Maurice Lindsay to restrain him from any further involvement in this rebel competition," John Quayle, the ARL chief executive, said.

Quayle is hopeful that a ban on the Global League can force the rebel players back to the negotiating table. Without them, the ARL is struggling for a meaningful competition. Seven of the eight Super League clubs, who were ordered back to the ARL by the courts.

that only four of ten games will go ahead.

The new Paris St-Germain club has named II France internationals in the side to face Sheffield Eagles in the opening European Super League match on Friday night and, surprisingly, has nominated ierre Chamorin, the centre, as captain.

Bradford have put Matt Calland on stand-by for their meeting with Leeds tomorrow in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup semi-final at Huddersfield because of a doubt over Graeme Bradley, who had an operation on his thumb last week.

"Rodney beat me over five games last weekend in the Hungarian semi-finals, in which we played to 15 points. and I had to maintain my gofor-everything tactics that

Bombay.

work against him, for much longer. Here I found I could keep the pressure on right to the end of each game. So far the new system seems pretty In the second round today in the Fleet pool, Walker faces

Brett Martin, the Australian No 2, who dismissed Mark Cairns, of Oxford, 9-4, 10-8. 10-8 in less than half an hour. later yesterday.

FOR THE RECORD

ne. J Gillespie and D W Fleming did FALL OF WICKETS 1-55, 2-100, 3-140, 4-174, 5-195. BOWLING: Wager 8-0-36-0; Streak 8-0-23-1, Politock 7-0-35-0; Streng 10-0-37-2; Jayasunya 10-0-45-0, de Silva 8-0-30-2 Man-oi-the-match, D M Jones.

FOOTBALL

Wadnesday's late results Verentressey and Possession State St

FA CUP: Stath round replays: Uverpool 3 Leeds 0, Wimbledon 1 Chalses 3. FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Bolton 2

Tottenham Hotspur 3; Menchester United 1 Arsenel 0; Southempton 0 Shelfield Wednesday 1 ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE; First division; Birmingham 1 West Program * division: Birmingham 1 West Bromwich 1. Port Vale 1 Norwich 0 Port Vale 1 Norwich 0
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Third division: Albon 2 East String 2
UNIBONO LEAGUE: First division: Postponed: Bracticar P A v Conglaton: Farsiey
Cotto v Lincoln United President's Cup:
Second round: Boston 0 Worksop 2.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: VS Rugby 0 Saisbury 1.
ICIS LEAGUE: Second division: Coller
Row 5 Challon SI Poter 2.
RAMECS BREMERY LEAGUE: Premier

Row & Challont St. Polat 2.

BANECS BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Brienley Hill 1 Lye 2.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Crencesars 3 Tuffley to Dictor to Burnham 3. Lambourn Sports 1 Kintbury 0: Storkwood 1 Highworth 2.

HEREWARD SPORTS LINATED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: St. Neots 2 Kennecton ().

2 Rempator 0.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier di-visione; Credition 1 Torrington 0. Post-poned: Brislington v Mangotsfield. JEWSON COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Sudbury Town Res 2 Clacion 2: Sudbury Wanderors 1 Harwich and Parkeston 3 NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Premier division: Belper Town & Amoid D. Hallam & North Femility & LEAGUE OF WALES: Cemaes Bay 3 First Town 0; Corney United 1 Caemarion 1: Cwmbran 1 Ebbw Vale 3: Ton Pentre 0 Lianali 0.

Cembrain 1 Ebbw Vale 3: Ton Pentre 0 Lanels 0.

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division; Brighton 3 Bristol Rovers 2: Bristol City 1 Checke 0, Chrotion Athletic O Arsonal 3, Crystal Palace 4 Symdon Town 1, Ipswich 4 Southampton 0: Lution Town 3 Oxford Utd 2: Norwich City 0 Wirnbledon 4 Second division: Birmanplann City 1 Bath City 2 Bournemouth 1 Cartill City 1, Newport AFC 7 Plymouth Angyle 3. Chettenfram Town 0 Torquay United 2. PONTHAS CENTRAL, LEAGUE: First division: Notits County 0 Blachburn Rovers 0. Second division: Bradford 1 Rotherham Utd 2 Burnley 0 Lecester City 4, York City 0 Sunderland 2. Third division: Bury 0 Cresserfield 0, Cartisle United 2 Strewsbury Town 0 Doncaster Rovers 6 Rochdale 3, Lincoln City 2 Wigan Affects 2: Scarborough 2 Stackport County 3, Walssid 2: Darington 0; Wiesham 2 Scunthorpe Utd 2 DuTCH LEAGUE: Gronnigen 2 Twente Enschede 2: Roda & Kentrade 3 Utrecht 1 SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools SCHOOLS MATCHES: English Schools Snickers under-19 Trophy: Frankin Col-ope, Nothingham 4 (set), Fareham College, Nothingham 4 (set), Fareham College 4 Swindon College 3 (set), Ridge Danyers

Collogo, Greater Manchester 2 Blackburn College, Lancs 1 English Goodyean under-18 Trophy: Laternood, Oson 3 St Joseph's Writs 0, George Stevenson, Northumberland 1 Myers Grove, South Yorkshire 0 English Reed Trophy: Hamp-shire 4 Odordshire 2 Southern Counties Cup: Sent-linet: St Atlans 0 Newhern 2 GOLF

AROGIRA: Portuguese Open: Early first-round scores (GB and Jie unless stated): 63: K Enksson (Swe) 65: W Riley (Aus) 66: R Wifson 87: D Borrego (Sp.), J Heaggman (Swe), J Coceres (Arg), D Siva (Por), P Hausgrud (Nor), 68: R Railerly, M McLear M Gronberg (Swe), M Besanceney (Fr), O kartson (Swe).

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Montreal 3 Hartford 2. New Jersey 1 Boston 2: Toronto 3 Detroit 4 (OT), Chicago 2 Calgary 3: Dellas 2 St Louis 1, Whrnippg 1 San Jose 7: Los Angoles 2 Colorado 5 BRITISH LEAGUE: Championship play-offis: Group Bt Newcastle 4 Humbergle 10 Promotion following 1. Manchester 10

ICE HOCKEY

ICE SKATING EDMONTON, Canada: World champion-ehips: Men Jaffer short programme). 1, 1 kulis (Russ) 0.5 sactored pts; 2, T Editedge (US) 10: 3, A Ummanov (Russ) 15; 4, R Galrido (US) 2.0; 5, S Cousris (GB) 2.5; 22, N Wilson (GB) 11.0 Pairs Final positions: 1, M Elbson and A Bustriov (Russ) 2.0; 2, M Woetzel and I Steur (Ger) 2.5; 3, J Meno and T Sand (US) 5.5; 16, L Rogers and M Aldred (GB) 2.4.0

RACKETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: Public schools champ-romship: Junior Colts: Malvern College (I Bornford and J Thompstone) bi Mask-borough College (M Chelwood and D Goodman-Smith) 15-3, 15-2, 15-10; Rugby M Milleton and M Bood-bethartin (Cition

College (J Aylwin and N Theveathesan) 15-8 15-11, 8-15, 7-15, 15-6, Harrow (R Wilcow and C Craven) bt Chemerhouse (R Grandy and C Fartune) 15-9, 15-4, 15-0, Radley College (S Hickson and M Sacock) bt Cheltenham College (B Hughes and E Mathers) 15-5, 15-12, 15-10 College (S Fairbarm and S Cowley) bt Malvarri College (J Bairbarm and S Cowley) bt Malvarri College (J Bairbarm and S Hollingsworth and H Nash) bt Martborough College (A Bird and M Backford) 15-0, 15-7, 15-0; Weißington IN Kinder and J Alexander) bt Radley College (O Broom and C Van der

HATFIELD HOUSE: British Land National Over-50s championship: Semi-finass: H Angus bt R Knight, 6-2, 6-3: J Ward bt P Danby 6-0, 6-2

RUGBY UNION

PRETORIA: Super 12: Northern Transvasi 59 Otago 29.

ROSSLYN PARIK NATIONAL SCHOOLS SEVENS: Open tournament: Stoth round: Bussaleg 22: St. Otave's 10, Hymers 0 Wimbledon Coll 31; John Fisher 12 Hampton 31; Siscoeles 10 Hawthom 25; Cunnersbury 0 Storyhurst 42, Millfeld 19 Warrick 25; Pockington 12 Sedbergh 33: Clarifal 24 Mount St. Manys 19 Ouert-finals; Bassaleg 5 Storyhurst 24: Hampton 19 Sedbergh 29; Wimbledon 29 Warrick 19, Héwthom 7 Glantal 17: Semi-finals; Storyhurst 24: Storyhurst 25; Schoegh 5 Storyhurst 25; Santal 31; Final: Storyhurst 25; Gantal 31. Glanial 31 Final: Storyhursi 29 Glanial 10

SPEEDWAY

CHALLENGE MATCH: Crediey Heath and Stoke 43 Wolvethampton 50

TELFORD INTERNATIONAL CENTRE-Embessy world championship: Final qualifying round (England unless stated):

TENNIS ST PETERSBURG, Russia: Men's tour-nament: Second round: D Prinosii (Ger) bi J Apeli (Swe) 6-4, 6-4; F Dewuli (Bel) bi N Marques (Por) 6-4, 6-3



BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Toronto 107 Charlotte 89, Atlanta 98 Vancouver 93. 107 Charlotte 89, Atlanta 98 Vanctoner 93.
Boston 90 Orlando 112: Mismi 102 Detroit
S3 Washington 101 Sen Andono 112, New York 102 Indiana 99; Minvaulce 97 Sacramento 122 Utah 107 Privadelphia 84: LA Clippers 110 Minnesota 98
BUDWEISER ALL-STAR MATCH: North 53 (Robinson 32, Humphrey 24, Cauthorn, Rathit 23) South 157 (Dorsey 40, Windless BOWLS

BOWLS

ADELAIDE: Men's world championships: Imples: South round: Group A: United States bt Guernsey 28-11; Israel bt Namibae 23-9: Aerys bt Singapone 30-14. Group B: Argentina draw with Malaissa 14-14, Ireland of Cook Islands 22-10. Wales bt South Almaa 19-12. Swealland bi Thratland 28-13 Group D: Botsmana bt Wastern Samos 24-9. Scotland bi Brazil 22-11. Canada bi Zambabae 35-11. Filip bt Zimbabne 27-11; Namos 24-9. Scotland bi Brazil 22-11. Canada bi Zambabae 35-11. Filip bt Zimbabne 27-11; Namos de Malawa 25-7. Swealth round: Group A: Australas 17 Price 11: Namos bi Harrya 48-2 Group positions: 1. Australas 12 pfs. Seat bt Singapone 20-11. Namos bi Harrya 48-2 Group positions: 1. Australas 12 pfs. 1 kraz 10, 3, United States 7: 4, Namos 16-11; Wales bt Cook Islands 36-7: South Africa and Ireland 12, 3, Wales 10, 4, Swealland 5: Equal 5, Malaysia and Left 15. Group positions: Equal 1. South Africa and Ireland 12, 3, Wales 10, 4, Swealland 5: Equal 5, Malaysia and 26 Group C: Scotland bt Botsmana 19-8. Sociland 19-12. Group positions: 1, Scotland 19-12. Canada 19-13, Brazil bt Western Samos 19-12 Group positions: 1, Scotland 12, 2, Canada 9: 3, Jersey 7, Scotland 12, 2, Canada 9: 3, Jersey 7, Scotland 12, 2, Canada 9: 3, Jersey 7, Scotland 12, 2, Fiji bt Norlok, Island 20-14, Hong Hong bt Papua New Gurnea 43-9. Group positions: Equal 1, New Zestand 14, 2, Erigand 12, 3, Fiji 10: uqual 4, Hong Ang and Canada 13-11 (19-14), Hong Hong and Canada 14-7, Malawa 0, And Papua New Gurnea 43-7, Malawa 0, And Papua New Gurnea 43-8, And Papua New Gurnea 43-7, Malawa 0, And Papua New Gurnea 43-8, And Papua New Gurnea 43-8, And Papua New Gurnea 43-8, And Papua N

Semi-finals: Scotland v South Africa, Australia v New Zealand. LLANFELL: Women's indoor home inter-nationals: England bt Ireland 160-83 (England slops first). M Stoete lost to M Johnston 21-18, D Henker bt M Mallon 18-12: J Roylance bt B Cameron 40-6; W Line bt N Montgomery 27-14: M Price bt 8 Wyle 32-18, N Shew bt J Mulholland 25-12

One-day match Australia v World XI MELBOURINE (World X) wan toss): Australia beat World XI by five wickets.

ST Jayasuriya c Healy b Flerning 10
IR S Kaluuriharana c Healy b Retitel 5
D M Jones C Ferning b M Waugh 103
P A de Siva c Taylor o Flerning 10
"R B Richardson b Gillespie 3
M D Crown c Flerning b Gillespie 11
N Rihodes c State b Flerning 16
S M Potock c Gillespie b Lee 29
H H Streak not out 9
P A Strang c S Waugh b M Waugh 2
Euras (b 3, w 5, nb 4) 12

Euras (b 3, w 5, nb 4) 12

Testel (o users) 22
20
21

2-01, 0-114, 7-172, 8-208, 9-210 BOMING: Retiel 10-2-29-1; Fleming 8-2-32-3 Lee 9-0-35-1, Galespe 8-1-23-2, Warre 10-0-57-0, Bovan 3-0-16-0; M Waugh 2-0-15-2

CYCLING

WORLD XI

TIRRENO-ADRIATICO RACE: Final stage (169km, Grotiomare to San Benedetto) 1, J Svoradia (C2) 3hr 53mm 13soc. 2. M Torm (II), 3, F Meton! fits same time 4, E Zabel (Ger), 5, M Sirazzov (II) same time. Overalk 1, F Casagrande (II) 34hr 46mm 18sec; 2, A Goracherikov (Ukr) at 23sec; 3, G Pianegonde (II) at 29, 4, M Coppolito (It) at 32, 5, G Colombo (It) at 51sec.

CRICKET

Total (9 wide, 50 overs) Waqar Younis did not bal. Waqar Youris did not bell. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-17, 2-17, 3-33, 4-45, 5-81, 6-114, 7-172, 8-208, 9-210

AUSTRALIA

*M A Taylor c Ruchardson b Strang ...
M G Bevan c Kaluwitharene b Strook S R Waugh c Streak b Strang ...
M E Waugh not out
S Lee c Javasurye b de Save
I A Healy c Strang b de Silva
P R Reifiel not out
Ednas (b 2, ib 3, w 6) Total (5 wids, 49 overs)

FOOTBALL Kick-oit 7.30 unless stated BORD GAIS LEAGUE OF IRELAND: Premier division: Robustion Premier division: Bohemians v Deny (7 45), St Patrick's Ath v Drogheda (7 45). NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Trafford v Maine Road. LINIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: SCHOOLS MATCHES: FA Premier League Under-16 Trophy: Northumber-land v Humberside (a) Morpeth, 20)

English Schools Snicters Under-19
Trophy: Quarter-finals: Franklin College,
Humbersde v Archbrishop Gemehaw, W
Midlands 2 (2); Hills Road College, Cam-bridge v Palmers College, Essex (2 0).
English Schools Goodyear Under-15
Trophy: Quarter-finals: George Stephen-son, Northumberland v Wolleton, Humberside (4.0), Derland HS, Clwyd v St Francis Xavier, Merseyside (4.15)

SPEEDWAY: Challenge Belle Vue v Brackord (7.30). SQUASH: Equitable Life Super Series play-RUGBY LEAGUE FRIENDLY MATCHES: Keighley v Hairlax (7.30), Oldmath v Hunslei (8.0) Brach Civrnoic mals

and the transfer of the second of the second

OTHER SPORT BASKETBALL: Budwelser Laaguer New castle v Leicester (8 0): Leopards v Wortning (8 0) MOTOR SPORT: Vauxteali Rathy of Wates SNOOKER: Embossy world championship qualifying (Tellord)

REAL TENNIS THE SECTIMES

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Surrey 58 PRETORIA: Super 12: Northern Transvaal

SNOOOKER

Rivals left to fret over Eriksson's positive approach

THE golfers of the PGA European Tour have been visited by all manner of impediments this season, and yesterday another variety of meteorological nastiness left players kicking their heels frustratedly as it caused a long delay before the Portuguese have had. Open could get under way at Aroeira, ten miles south of

There was rain in Singapore, South Africa and Dubai. and the Catalan Open was reduced to 36 holes by gales. This time it was a heavy sea fret that crept in from the nearby Atlantic at dawn, which meant a delay of 2hr 10min and an incomplete first round. All that is needed to complete the set is fire, snow and a plague of locusts.

There was no fire yesterday. but there was heat of another kind as Klas Eriksson, the young Swede, lit the blue touch-paper and scorched round the course in 63, eight under par, to finish his day leading in the clubhouse by two shots. There were still dozens of players on the course as dusk fell, and if the fog clears off and minds its own business, the first round will be completed this morning.

Like most of his fellow competitors. Eriksson, 24, who leads Wayne Riley by two seen him miss the cut in every

AT ANY given golf tourna-

ment, in any given week, in

whatever part of the world,

there is one certainty: if there

is a Swede playing, there will

be a Swede on the leaderboard. Yesterday, in the

first round of the Standard

Register Ping event here at

Moon Valley, the dutiful play-er was Carin Hj Koch, who

was three under par after ten holes, a shot behind Barb

Mucha, of the United States,

who started with an eagle

Koch, née Hjalmarsson

(hence the hiccup in the mid-

dle of her name), was one of

the dew sweepers, alongside

her compatriot, Catrin Nils-

three at the 10th.

and Ricky Willison by three, found the soft, slow and spikeridden greens a constant challenge to the assembly of a good score. However, a sequence of nine birdies in 11 holes from the 5th cut in the bud any small complaint that he might

Riley's view on the putting surfaces was typical. "They look like they've just run the Grand National on them," he said. A slight exaggeration. perhaps, but you knew what

To be fair, the greenkeepers at Aroeira have been working

under the most adverse conditions in the past few months; the amount of rain that has fallen here since December would have them positively salivating at Yorkshire Water. It did not alter the fact, though, that things were not easy ... unless your name happened to be Klas Eriksson. that is. He dropped only one shot, on the short 4th, when he

missed the green off the tee and failed to get up and down. He might have been rattled, he might have slid towards the sort of diffident golf that has

Swedes winning mind games

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES IN PHOENIX

mark-Wickberg (marriage ex-

plains the double-barrelled

tendency). Nilsmark, who

holed the winning putt in the

Solheim Cup at Dalmahoy,

started with a birdie three but

went out in 37, one over par,

after a double-bogey six at the

Koch, 25, is in her second

year on the US tour. In 1995

she earned a respectable

\$129,313 (about £85,000) and

was 48th on the money-list.

"She's swinging well and has

a good attitude," a seasoned

A good attitude is not some-

thing the Swedes acquire by

accident. The Swedish Golf

Federation's national team

observer said this week.

which he has played this season, but that dropped shot might have been the catalyst he needed to set off the violent reaction that followed.

Eriksson birdied the 5th with a pitching wedge to three feet, birdied the 6th with a 12-foot putt, picked up another shot on the 8th with an eightiron to ten feet and a single putt, and reached the turn with another birdle from a foot at the 9th.

The next three holes were also brought to heel with aggressively accurate golf. At the 10th, a par-five of 538 yards, he needed a putt of only 12 inches, and he was ten inches closer than that at the 11th. He had to think about things a little more on the 12th, where he had to hole from ten feet for a birdie, and really messed things up at the 13th, where he got a mere par

Eriksson came into this tournament after being on the receiving end of a lecture from Rolf, his father, who preached the gospel of positive thinking. "He told me that if I got to two under, I must immediately look for three, then four, and so on," Eriksson said. "I tried to today." Birdies eight and nine, at the 14th and 15th, would seem to indicate that Eriksson Sr had made his

programme, designed to make

Sweden one of the best golf

nations in the world, does not

confine itself to technical mat-

ters. The mind and the whole

being are involved, too. The

main goal, according to documented philosophy, is to

give our players a chance to

educate themselves in all as-

pects needed to succeed in the

game of life and the game of

golf". The first named of these

Solheim Cup stalwart, went

out in 38, one over par, after

starting at the 10th, but Kath-

ryn Marshall, of Scotland,

was two under, having gone

Alison Nicholas, an English

areas is "attitude".



Oumpa's sixth discipline scores high

Titis 3pm in a hall in Tonbridge, Kent. A Wizard-of-Oz of an invigilator has said: "Ladies, uncase your pistols." He then tells them to load, then shoot, then stop. Four young earmuffed women, two each from Oxford and Cambridge. are now awaiting further orders, sitting with their heads in their hands like mourners who have arrived early for a funeral service.

They use air pistols, fire from a distance of ten metres. one shot per 40 seconds at a arget with an inner and outer bull worth ten points; two exterior circles within the central black ring scoring nine and eight, the less accurate the shot, the lower the score. Perfection would be 200 from 20 shots. A score of 172 yields 1,000 modern pentathlon points.

It is shooting day at the Varsity modern pentathlon match. Cambridge are tipped to win again; Oxford remain hopeful, "quietly optimistic about our chances" is the official version. In the dining room, where we had the sort of lunch about which one feels neutral and praises standards of hygiene, Andersen Consulting, sponsor of the event.

displays a range of silverware, champagne bottles and comthat no one will leave empty-

handed. In the classical Olympic Games, the pentathion consisted of discus, javelin, high jump, long jump and wres-ding. It was the climax of the games. The winner ranked as the victor ludorum. Aristotle. in his Rhetorics, wrote: "The most perfect sportsmen are the pentathletes; in their bodies, strength and speed are combined in beautiful

Today's complete pentathlete runs and swims; shoots and fences and rides. In each discipline, excellence is marked with a score of 1,000 points, in pistol shooting for achieving 172. Twelve points are added to the magic thousand for each extra score or deducted for underper-

In running, the men execute four laps of a 1,000-metre cross-country course; a time of 7min 40sec is worth 1,000 points. Five pentathlon marks are added or subtracted per completed second within or outside this time. Swimming's 1,000 requires eight 25-metre lengths in 2min 54sec, with

Going: good to soft

1.35 (1m 4f) 1, Hayra Ya Katash (R
Financh, 33-1); 2, Outstayed Welcome
(20-1); 3, Golden Arrow (25-1); 4, Almuhtaram (8-1), Cusango 8-1 fav. 21 ran. 1¼,
6. N Babbaga, Tote: £72-70; £12-60,
£4.10, £9.50, £2.10, DF: £734.30 Tric: not
won (pool of £1,045.39 caméd forward to
3.40 al Doncaster (oday) CSF: £548.63
Tricsst: £14,087.14.

2.05 (1m 2' 60yd) 1, Manful (Mss A Essy, 20-1); 2, Hazard A Guess (8-1); 3, Princess Danielle (20-1); 4, Gellardini (33-1); Calder King (13-2 p-4w. 27 ran. NF: Sea God. 3:4, 4, C W Essy, Tote: £29 60: £5.50, £2.80, £7.20, £12.80 DF: £206.80. Trio: £1,660.20 (part won; pool of £1,660.29) carried forward to 3,40 at Doncaster today). CSF: £180.77. Tricast: £3,063.86.

2.35 (5f) 1, indian Sperk (T Sprake,

Doncaster

Going: good to soft



ON FRIDAY

four points per second on or off. In fencing, each competitor fights each other competitor - 27 sudden-death épée bouts and 19 hits is the aim; 41 points per hit are added or subtracted.

The riding is over a show course, on an unfamiliar horse, after a 15-minute warmup in which one can take no more than four practice jumps. A clear round within optimum time scores 1,100; all transgressions lose points. Olympic pentathlons started at the Games of 1912, at the insistence of Baron de Coubertin, who wanted sculling rather than shooting: sculling presented organisation difficulties. At Stockholm, there were 22

100-30); 2, Joint Venture (5-1); 3, Muchea (100-30), Fredrik The Fierce 5-2 fav. 7 ran. 41, 31/51, W G M Turner, Tota: 53,70; 52.20, 52.00, DF 521,40, CSF: 520,98.

3.05 (1m) 1, First Island (M Hills, 9-2); 2. Wijara (6-1); 3, Newsamis (11-10 fav), 7 ran. 1 %l, 2 %l. G Wragg, Toter: £4.40; £2.40, £2.90. DF: £9.90. CSF: £28.61.

3,40 (5f) 1, Little Noggins (J Stack, 16-1); 2, Lady Caroline Lamb (20-1); 3, Passion For Life (4-1 fav); 4, Secret Voucher (16-1), 18 ran. H, nk, C Dwyer, Tote: \$18.00; 22,70, 24.30, £1.50, £3.90 DF; £148.60, Trio: £636.10 CSF: £278.01, Tricast; £1,443.57.

4.10 (Im 2f 60yd) 1, Jackson Hill (Pat Eddery, 6-4 fav, Thunderer's nap); 2, Deadline Time (12-1); 3, Dancing Cavalier (16-1); 4, Docklands Limo (14-1); 18 ran, NR: Roman Gold Hd, 134, R Charifor, Tota: \$2.50; £1.30, £2.60; £3.70, £4.00, DF: £15.30, Trio £161.80 CSF: £24.87, Tricast: £249.54,

competitors, three from Great Britain and, of the ten Swedes who competed, six finished in the first seven. Until a German victory in 1936, Swedish athletes dominated the sport. Then came the Hungarian era, followed by Pavel Lednev with two golds, two silvers and three bronzes between 1968 and 1980. Britain's only individual

success was a bronze in Mexico by the then Sergeant Jim Fox, though we won the team gold medal in Montreal, 1976: Fox, Nightingale and Parker. But British women won every world event in the late Seventies and early Eighties, and continue to dominate pentathleticism on the distaff

Julia Allen, 24, comes from Abingdon, in Oxfordshire, is a sixth and final-year veterinary student at Cambridge and probably our finest pentathete. (Sadly, women's pentathlon is not an Olympic sport). She swam from the age of seven, joined her local pony dub at around that time, is a natural athlete, a brilliant shot and "rubbish at fencing".

Unlike the decathlon, in which each discipline demands athletic brilliance, technique and stamina, the

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAYS THREE MEETINGS

3.45 CURLEW NOVICES HURDLE

World Egress, 3-1 Hardy Weather. 7-1 Saruk, Pressia, 8-1 Irish Wildcard. Ner, San Diego Charger, 14-1 others.

4.15 ROBIN HANDICAP CHASE (£2,892: 2m 3f) (5)

1 UIF THREE PHILOSOPHENS 24 (6.5) T Fenter 7-12-0 A Thomson 24 4213 AEDEAN 13 (8.5) E Enight 7-10-6 ... I R Konzangh 3 4UOU LUCKY AGAN 9 (F.S) C Prochem 9-10-5 ... T Descende (5) 4 3U11 ALLO GEORGE 9 (6.5) A Mencombe 10-10-5 (6xt) D Gallagher 5 (343 CHARTERFORHARDWARE 14 (5) W Clay 10-10-0

4.45 THRUSH STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT

FLAT RACE (Div 1: £1,420: 2m 1f) (14)

1 14 KENTRORD TRIA 108 (G) J Northins 5-11-6 ... S Curren (3)
2 5 ADMIRAL BRUWY ST N Gassies 5-11-4 ... F Cooper (7)
3 4 CARRY THE CARRO 35 S Christian 5-11-4 ... D Gallagher
4 CHERCHOLE CREE O Sherbood 5-11-4 ... JA McCarbby
5 0 DINGLE WOOD 41 S Enfittes 6-11-4 ... Mr M Sorbin
6 JUSCONS PET C Cooley 5-11-4 ... Mr M Sorbin
7 SCOUNDREL K Ballay 5-11-4 ... Mr M Sorbin
7 SCOUNDREL K Ballay 5-11-4 ... A Thornton
7 MR SECRET GREY D McCab 5-11-4 ... D McCabr
9 GO CARLING-PORD LASS 24 F Jordan 6-10-13 ... J Lodder
10 GRUPPATH T Intellor-Dears 5-10-13 ... J Lodder
11 00 BID FOR TOOLS 21 A Resonable 4-10-10 ... JR Resempt
12 00 MOT GUILTY 2D H Ofter 4-10-10 ... JR Resempt
13 10 BAY FAR 27 J Bosley 4-10-5 ... Paul Thampson (7)
14 EMERALD DOVE R Price 4-10-5 ... Paul Thampson (7)
15 Hossierd Trux 7-2 Charding Chief, 4-1 Gangari, 9-2 Carry The Card, 7-1 Scoundrel, 10-1 Energial Dove, 12-1 Admiral Bruny, 16-1 ofters.

5.15 THRUSH STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT

HAGE (DIV II: ET.410: 2m 10) (14)

ODD BANKS OF THE BRIDE F MAS B Warms 6-11-4 ... E Byrne CHESTERS MAP M Pop 5-11-4 ... Ye Wardington 5 HLIS GAMBUE 18 F Benes 6-11-4 ... W Wardington 2 JOHNN'-K 35 D Micholson 5-11-4 ... R Massay (5) LIMO K Bridgeoir 5-11-4 ... R Massay (5) DATS ALDET F Forster 5-11-4 ... R Forman DATS ALDET F FORSTE 5-11-4 ... G Forster 6-11-4 ... G Forster 6-11-4 ... G Forster 6-11-4 ... G Forster 6-11-4 ... Mr S Author 6-11-4 ... Mr S Author 6-11-4 ... Mr S Author 6-11-4 ... G FORSTE 5-11-4 ... G FORS

2 Johnny-K. 7-2 Charless Nap. 4-1 Cats Aloit, 5-1 Hills Genthic, 8-1 Fre-gglas, 12-1 Welch Silk, 20-1 Bel-De-Moor, 25-1 others

Blinkered first time

DONCASTER: 3.40 Petosian, HEREFORD: 2.40 Woodlands Power. 3.10 Benens Cove, Reggorty, NEWBURY: 1.50 Querry House

FLAT RACE (Div I: £1,420: 2m 1f) (14)

FLAT RACE (DIV II: £1,410: 2m 1f) (14)

Philosophurs, 9-f Alko George, 3-1 Charlesforharchure, 9-2 Aestean. Again,

modern pentathlete is a multi-faceted beast who must be half asleep and rigid during the shoot wide awake and conning for the épée, a naturai runner who spends a lot of time in the swimming pool and is an adequate horseman. with the substantial luck to be allocated an empathetic

Ed Egan, Oxford final-year medic, was bred for this event by his father Michael. is one of our Olympic hopes. has which is outstanding. In Atlanta, all five disciplines are contested in one day. At Tonbridge, the competition spans Thursday, Friday, Saturday, is altogether less frenetic, more fun . . . as it should be when half the participants bear the letters OUMPA on their tracksuits and have the crown of Oxford shaved from the backs of their heads.

There is also constant conjecture on whether it is to be Saturday night's post-pentathlon banquet with Beef Wellington on the menu, or the late-night cross-germination of ideas between the men and women which will comprise the sixth discipline, and how is the scoring to be other than subjective?

3.25 (2m 11 hole) 1, Fane Park (G Hogan, 6-1); 2, Lady Poly (20-1); 3, Father's Joy (16-1). Neveroid 6-4 fav. 8 ran. NR Classic Image, Nicorni, Take A Flyer Nk. dist. L Wells. Tole: 98.70; 92.10, 95.10, 93.60. DF-216.20 Troc. 925.90, part won; pool of £13.51 cented lowward to 3.40 at Doncaster today). CSF: £38.45 Tricast: £1,640.56. Father's Joy Inished second, but after a stewards' incury was placed.

2.05

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent Dealer North Love all Rubber bridge **£7632 VAJ4** + Q J 3 #AQ3 **4.J** 10 9 **♥**K972 ¥8653 **1094 ♦8652** +J10765 #82 +AQ854 ♥Q10 +AK7 **★**K94 3 S 4 D (2) 6 S 1 NT (12-14)

Contract: Six Spades by South Lead: jack of clubs

(i) North does not know from the Three Spade bid whether South is interested in a slam or merely looking for the best game. In case South has a slam in mind, North cue-bids his ace of clubs, which also shows a maximum hand with good spade support. (2) Showing the ace of diamonds and confirming slam interest. (3) A heart control, just what South wanted to hear.

The theme of this hand has come up in a previous Refresher. South's main problem is how to play the trump suit. The standard safety play of this suit combination is to cash the ace and later lead up to the queen. Thus, declarer does not lose to the singleton king offside. However, the trouble with this play is that it guarantees that there will be at least one loser in the suit. This does not matter if the heart finesse is right, but if the heart finesse is wrong, declarer's only chance is to play the

trump suit for no loser and the way to do this is to take a firstround finesse. The solution is not hard to spot. Rather than draw trumps immediately, declarer

should first take a heart finesse. On this occasion, it will win, so declarer can afford to make the safety play in trumps. Had the queen of hearts lost to the king, declarer would have had to take a firstround trump finesse, thus still making his contract when East had Kx of trumps.

☐ For details of The Times Midland Private Banking National Bridge challenge. contact the event organisers on 0181-942 9506 or write to: Britannic Building, Beverley Way, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4PH or fax to: 0181-942

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By RAYMOND KEENE CHESS CORRESPONDENT Anti-computer

strategy While world champion Garry Kasparov was overcoming the resistance of IBM's Deep Blue mainframe computer in Philadelphia, Nigel Short also took on the world micro-computer champion in a two-game match in Ecuador. Short took a leaf from Kasparov's book and applied slow manoeuvring tactics which ultimately led to the machine's strangulation in a long endgame. The kev to computer-hostile strategy is to avoid open positions leading to sharp tactics at which the computers excel.

White: MChess Pro Black: Nigel Short Guayaquil, February 1995 French Defence

3 Nd2 N/6 NId7 **c**5 6 ය3 8 Bd3 CXd4 Nb6 10 Na2 11 a3 aŝ 0-0 15 Bf2 Na5 16 Nd2 Bc6 17 Qc2 Od7 Bb5 20 Nc3 21 Re3 Nbc4 22 Nxc4 Ь5 24 Qe2 25 Na2 Ric8 26 Rcc3 Na5

Bat8 Bat5 Rc8 30 Nb4 31 Bh4 Qa7 32 Kh1 Rc7 35 Qd1 Na5 Cxc7 Qc4 KI7 Ke7 Kd7 Ob3 Nb3 48 Kg2 49 Kh1 Na5 Nc4 Kc8 Nb6 51 Qc4 Qc2+ Ce3 53 Kg2 55 Ce1 56 Q11 Kb4 Kb3 Ce1 + 58 Qf1 Nbd2 Nd3 59 Oe1 60 Bd2

62 Kh4 White resigns Diagram of final position 國主國主 ※主流主義 · en and and

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

HEHEEDED! 2.10 Majboor Yafooz. 2.40 Knockaverry. 3.10 Ground Nut. 3.45 World Express. 4.15 Three Philosophers. 4.45 Cherokee Chief, 5.15 Johnny-K.

2.10 BLACKBIRD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,752; 2m 3i 110yd) (13 rumers)

2.40 CHAFFINCH NOVICES CHASE (£3,074: 3m 1f 110yd) (13)

3.10 WREN HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,766: 2m 3f 110yd) (8)

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Hendeson, 14 winners from 25 majors, 50.0%; O Sherwood, 5 from 17, 26.7%; M Plas, 31 from 107, 30.7%; N Reislan-Carles, 25 from 75, 37.7%; D Micholson, 11 from 42, 25.2%; R Buckler, 7 from 26, 25.0%. JOCKEPS: J Lower, B winners from 20 rules, 30,0%; J R Kavansch, 11 winners from 54 rules, 20,4%; T Descombe, 3 from 19, 15,8%; M Bussley, 5 from 40, 12,5%, D Lealny, 5 from 41, 12,2%; R Farrant, 5 from 42, 11,6%.

4.40 (1m) 1, Insiyabi (W Carson, 5-1); 2, Polinesso (2-1 fav); 3, Courting Danger (20-1), 15 ran. NF. Full Throtile. 2, 71, Dunlop Tote: 55.60; 51.80, 52.00, 55.20. DF 59.10. Trio: £102.90, CSF £17.47. Jackpot: not won (pool of £59,279,90 carried forward to Doncaster today). Placepot: £7,481.10, Quedpot: £78,60.

Plumpton Going: soft Going: son 2.25 (2m 4f holle) 1, Jojo (J R Kavenagh, 11-5 fav); 2, Chieftein's Crown (6-1); 3, Jusi-Mans-Mou (13-8), 5 ran, NR: Easy Breezy, Nautical George, Script, 5, 21), D Grissell, Tote: £2.10; £1.40, £1.20. DF: £3.70. CSF: £7.49

2.65 (2m 5/ ch) 1, Black Church (D O'Sullivan, 6-1); 2, Mirrage Dancer (8-1); 3, Rhoman Fun (11-4). Nathir 4-5 lav. 5 ran. NR: Little Torn, Oh So Handy, Ragian Road. 21, Kl. R Rowe. Tote. 59.20; 52.80. 52.00. DF: £11 90. CSF: £29 87

4.00 (2m ch) 1, Winspit (JR Kavenegh, 2-1 fav); 2, Cobb Gete (2-2); 3, Smarl in Sabte (3-1), 6 ran, NR: Star Of David, 11-1, 17, R Alner, Tote: \$2.70; \$1.50, \$2.80 DF: \$4.20. CSF: \$10.48. 4.30 (3m 1/110yd ch) 1, Golden Opel (G Supple, 6-1); 2, Miss Fern (4-6 tav) 4 ren Only two finished. Alk. R Buckler, Tote; 26.60 DF: £5.00. CSF: £10.63.

5.00 (2m 4/ hdis) 1, Pyramis Princa (Mr M Gingell, 9-4); 2, Il Bemboro (13-8 fav), 3, Macedones (9-1) 5 ran, NR Captain Coe, Mariners Cove, Wiltoski, 2p Your Lip 61, 24 J Whyte, Tote: 53.00; 52.00, 51.40 DF: 53.60 True: \$12.50 CSF: \$8.08

Piacepot: £1,898.60. Quadpot: £762.60. Wincanton Going: soft

2.15 (2m hole) 1, Headwind (P Hide, 3-1); 2, Secret Spring (11-4 ½v); 3, Penross Lad (12-1), 17 ran. NR: Modeljaj 91, 41 J Gifford. Tole: £3.30; £1.50, £2.00; £3.80 DF: £5.80. Trio: £34.40, CSF: £10.95.

2.45 (2m 5f ch) 1, Trying Again (R Dunwoody, 8-11 lav); 2, Capanwray (7-2); 3, River Gala (33-1). 9 ran. NR: Our Wiczer, Rose Garden, Supreme Music Dat. 251 D Gandolb. Tote: £1.70; £1.10; £2.10 DF-£3 10. Trio: £15.20 CSF £3.86 3-15. (Inc.: 15.20 CSF: £3.86 3.15. (Sm. 11.10)yd ch.), Fulf Of Fire (Mr. M. Armyospe, 5-1); 2. Beaumpaire (7-4 fav); 3. Real Progress (4-1), 6 ran. NR Desert Run, Duhallow Lodge, Symderborough Lad 2. dist K Bailey, Tote: £5.30; £2.00, £1.40 DF: £4.10 Trio: £3.40. CSF: £13.35. Tricast: £30.80.

3.50 (2m 8t hdle) 1, Cavina (L Wyer, 2.1 fav); 2, Young Tess (8-1); 3, Glengand Girl (3-1); 16 ran NR; Jauny June, Lady Ness, 31, 201 N Graham, Tote £2.90, £1.50,

217-co.
4.20 (2m 5f ch) 1, Osklands Word (Mr J Jukes, 6-1); 2, King's Tressure (5-1); 3, Bright Burns (9-1). Still in Business 9-4 lav 13 ran. Nrt. Drewtts Dancer, Part Balson. 41 13! E Phodes, Tote C3 10: 1: 190, 21:90. 22:90. DF: 831 00. Trio: £83.40. CSF: 238 03

4.50 (2m hote) 1. Josišna (A Thornton, 25-1); 2. Manolete (7-2 ji-lav); 3. Teen Jay (10-1). Sain Clel 7-2 ji-lav 8 ran 11, 10, M McCommack, Tote: \$34.10; £5.10, £1.40, £2.70 DF: £48.90, CSF-£104.69, Thoast: £876.42.

Placepol: £37.00. Quadoot £11.10.

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By Philip Howard

WORD WATCHING

ABNEY a. A denial

c. Stuttering

b. A Suffolk signpost c. An angular instrument **GONGORA**

DOGAN a. The Portuguese Inquisition

a. To ditch b. A Roman Catholic △ A portable bed a. Sugar cane b. A refusal b. An orchid

c. A big cance Answers on page 42

By Raymond Keene

Fxc3

WINNING MOVE

27 Oe1

White to play. This position is from the game Malishauskas - Shirov, Tallinn 1996. Alexei Shirov, one of the world's most dangerous tac-tical players, here finds himself on the receiving end of a combination. How did White force immediate



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Doncaster executive proposes radical change for traditional fixture

April date sought for Lincoln meeting

By RICHARD EVANS, RACING JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

THE Lincoln meeting, which spluttered into life at a chilly and mist-shrouded Doncaster yesterday, could soon be staged in April after the Grand National at Aintree. The traditional starting point for the new turf Flat season is increasingly feeling the effects of being squeezed between National Hunt's two popular Festivals - Cheltenham and Aintree - and Doncaster racecourse is set to propose a fixture shake-up to

RICHARD EVANS

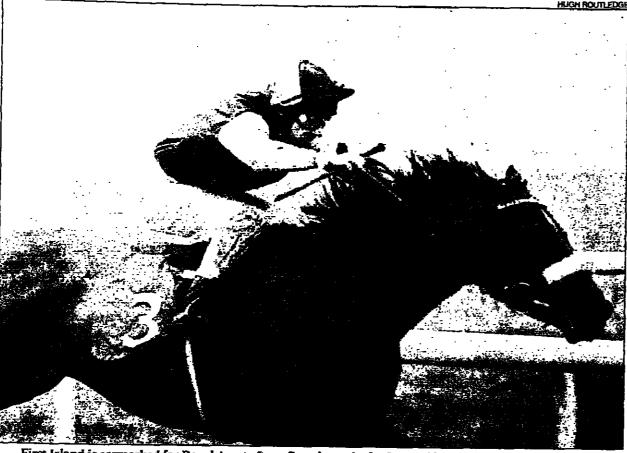
Nap: TO THE ROOF (4.10 Doncaster) Next best: Noyan (3.05 Doncaster)

the British Horseracing Board

John Sanderson, chief executive at Doncaster and a BHB member, said: "There is nothing magic about this week in March. It is just tradition and there has to be a case for moving the Lincoln."

On an afternoon which Sanderson accurately described as being more like a jumping day at Catterick in December, he admitted: "It is not a great start to the British Flat racing season."

"I would like to think the real Flat racing season continued to start here with the Lincoln at Doncaster. If it makes it more attractive promotionally and for racing generally to move it to the other side of the National, what is wrong with that?"



First Island is earmarked for Royal Ascot after a fine victory in the Stones Bitter Doncaster Mile yesterday

There can be no doubt the development of all-weather Flat racing during the winter months and the increased popularity of Cheltenham, in particular, and Aintree have affected the Lincoln meeting. It no longer holds such an important place in the affec-

tions of racing people. Doncaster's proposal is like-

aimed at having more racing

ly to form part of a package

at the racecourse which stages the oldest classic. The home of the St Leger at present stages just 27 days racing — includ-ing only seven National Hunt fixtures. A scheme has already been drawn up to widen the jumps course and Sanderson would like to stage between 40

and 50 racing days.

Doncaster and Newmarket provide the best two surfaces in European racing and we have the capacity to use this to provide consistently reasonable ground for Flat racing throughout the summer. By the same token, it is a great shame not to put on more jump racing because there is plenty of space."

While the more conservative elements within racing are likely to rail against such radical change, I hope the BHB will give Doncaster's

proposals a fair hearing. The Lincoln meeting is likely to face even greater pressure in future years when it will clash with the Dubai World Cup and almost saturation cover-

age from Channel 4. "We will have to grasp the nettle sooner or later and the debate that has gone on this year about the contraction in time between Cheltenham and the Grand National meeting Sanderson added.

If the racing authorities are not prepared to agree lock, stock and barrel with Doncaster's blueprint, they may wish to consider the idea of a mixed meeting at Doncaster in March. Flat and jumps come together at Sandown when the Whitbread Gold Cup and Thresher Classic Trial are staged on the same day in April and the meeting has proved immensely popular

down the years.

Despite yesterday's wintry conditions, First Island produced a sparkling turn of foot to win the Stones Bitter Doneaster Mile and it was no surprise to hear his trainer, Geoff Wragg, talk in terms of the Queen Anne Stakes at

Royal Ascot as a likely target. Held up at the rear of the seven-strong field. Michael Hills eased the 9-2 shot nearer the lead coming down the straight before streaking to the front at the furlong pole and winning by a length and a half from Wijara, the long-time leader. Nwaamis, the disappointing favourite, finished 2½ lengths away in third.

Hills reported: "He took me there so easily. Once I showed him an opening he took off. He's a lot stronger and different mentally to last year."

The son of Dominion carries the colours of Mollers Racing, who will be represented in the Dubai World Cup

next Wednesday by Pentire.
Wragg said: "Pentire was given a little bit of a lead by First Island before he went out to Dubai a couple of months ago, and he has been working nicely since arriving there."

Versatile Noyan fits the bill

CHANNEL 4

The John Gosdentrained Domak Amaam, who will be ridden by Frankie Dettori, is likely to be a popular order judged on his good second to the well-regarded Pivotal at Newcastle last term. The Dominion colt should relish the return to seven furlongs and is the form choice.

Mansab is another who will suited by the longer trip, but it could be worth taking a chance with Sorbie Tower. He showed plenty of prom-ise on his second start last term, "winning" the race on the far side at Warwick to finish second. Gav Kelleway rates this useful-looking son of Soviet Lad.

3.05: Upper Mount Clair sprung a 33-1 shock when taking this race last year and Clive Brittain's stayer has a sound chance of following up, having won twice over two miles at Southwell this year. However, this earlyseason stamina test tends to go to a lightly-weighted four or five-year-old who has been running in decent hurdle company.
Noyan, who won twice on

the Flat last year for Lennie Lungo before moving to David Nicholls, fits the bill perfectly. He has been running in decent handicap company over hurdles and was not disgraced behind Trainglot at Cheltenham. En Vacances progressed last term and should be there-

3.40: Reg Akehurst won this with Sharp Prospect last year and it will be no surprise to see the former



TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

Dick Hern-trained Mihriz run well on his debut for the new yard. The Machiavellian gelding is fairly treated on his early-season form last

spring.
The consistent Aeroking deserves a race but preference is for Mister Fire Eyes, a winner at this meeting 12 months ago, who has shown markedly improved form on the all-weather during the winter His latest start at Wolverhampton three weeks ago, after a three-month absence, should have put Clive Brittain's runner spot on for this competitive handicap.

4.10: I am keen on the chances of To The Roof for three reasons. Despite being a maiden, the form of the sprinter from the in-form Peter Harris yard is arguably the best on offer and he had a plum draw from stall 22. Also, the Thatching gelding has been hobdayed since finishing a good second at Chepstow last season so further improvement can be anticipated. Bolshoi, who won first time out last year, looks nicely weighted and can be given a chance along with Sycamore Lodge.

RICHARD EVANS

DONCASTER

THUNDERER

1.30 Contravene 2.05 Three Hills 2.35 Domak Amaem 3.05 EN VACANCES (nap)

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.35 DOMAK AMAAM (nap). 3.05 Mizyan. 3.40 Mister Fire Eyes.

GUING, GOOD TO SOFT TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

1.30 CYSTIC FIBROSIS MAIDEN SELLING STAKES (2-Y-0; £2,560; 5f) (7 runners). NATTIE (Oudha

HELLO DOLLY (K Norry) K Norry B-9 C Seally (7)
HIT OR MISS (8 Lorrey) M Chamana B-9 T Quirm
RAHONA C, Molorey) B Rathrest B-9 M Fenton SKYERS FLYER Ribs C Camey) R Thompson B-9 T Williams

1995; PENNY PARKES 8-9 J Carroll (4-1) J Berry 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

CONTRAVENE (Apr 15, 3,200prs) Fourth loat, by Contract Law, HELLO DOLLY (Apr 14, 4,100prs) Hall-state by Mugadit to settld 1m handcapper Embankment, HRT OR MISS (Mar 21, 8,800prs) No selection

2.05 P & J FOODS MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O. £3,785: 1m 2f 60yd) (11 runners)

12-1	·V. L.	,,, oo	111 21 00 July (1 1 Tulmore)	
201	(10)	63025-	AL'S AUBI 137 (Sussex Surd) W Muir 9-0 Jean-Pierre Lopez	90
302	(2)		ARNATEM (NY Greedley) C Britlan 9-0 B Dayle	-
393	(9)	0.553	CRYSTAL FAST 20 (L Norie) P ketenay 9-0 L Detton	84
204	(5)		LEDGENDRY LINE (Home & Autor Partners) Mrs M Reveley 9-0 K Darley	-
305	(6)		POLY MY SON (Sheet & Roll Conventors) M Charmon 9-0 R Hughes	
206	(4)		SCANDATOR (Palieri Few) P Harris 9-0 G Hard	-
207	ai		SUMMER SPELL (E. 8 W Robers) R Charlion 9-0	_
308	1111	53-	THREE HILLS 162 (A. Abdulla) E Hills 9-0 Pal Eddery	31
309	(6)		THINKY IS Landey) T Clement 9-0 J Clement	-
210	(3)	2436-	CLASSIC LOVER 156 (Classic Bloodstudy R Harris 8-9 A Mackay	
211	iii	040-	SISTER NIT 164 (C Davics) & Pailing 9-9 . T Sprain	85
	MC 7.4		is, 5-1 Summer Spell, 7-1 Amhem, Classic Lover 8-7 Ledgendry Line, Al's Alibi."	10-1
		4-1 others		
C17.34	ו ועבורו	←: 0003 3		

1995, SEA VICTOR 9-() Par Edden (4-1) J Gosden 12 ra

FORM FOCUS

AL'S ALIBI short-head 2nd of 14 to Ageeb In maden auction at Folkestone (71 good) on penulti-mate start CRYSTAL FAST 4-1 2nd of 7 to House of Riches in residen at Redicar (1m. 11, good form). CLASSIC LOVER seck and 31 3rd of 13 to House of Riches in residen at Redicar (1m. 11, good form). THREE HILLS 19:1 and next. 3rd of 14

.35 global shopfitters maiden stakes

302	(3)		AMBASSADOR (M AL Malkoum) B Hirls 9-0 M Hills	_
303	(7)	005425-	· ANGUS MCCOATUP 101 (D Allen) 8 McMahon 9-0 T Quien	85
804	(9)	6-	ARTERXEROES 140 (P Lame & Pariners) M Heaton-Eills 9-0 A Clark	84
305	(14)		DEPICTION (Mathews Racing) R Guest 9-0 W Woods	_
[30 8	(2)	32-	DOMAK AMAAM 144 (A Al Maktouro) J Gosden 9-0 L Dettori	(B)
307	(5)	43-		90
308	(13)	0054-	MELETRIAN CITY 180 (Adjetion Ptc) J Barry 9-0	81
309	(1)		MOCK TRIAL (P Leonard) Mrs. J Raessden 9-0 K Fallen	-
310	(8)	52425-4	OCEAN STREAM 7 (BP) (M Glesson) J Byra 9-0	94
311	(4)	8-	ONLY 95 (R Hannon) R Harson 9-0 Dane (Tikeli (5)	-
312	(11)	02-	SORBLE TOWER 171 (P Q) Miss G Kelleway 9-0 R Cochane	88
313	ĊΙΟΪ	25-	SURLEY SECURE 179 (R Sunlay Fice) M Channon 9-0	95
314	(12)		WELLIRAN (K Kook) A Feeter 9-0 7 Sprake	_
315	(15)	· 0-		- 1
316	(6)	40-	SISTAR ACT 224 (T Corby) M Channon 8-9 Candy Mords	76
BETTE TOWER,	16: 2-1 14-1 o	Ders.	лант, 3-1 Mansali, 7-1 Ambassador. 8-1 Ocean Sonaris. 12-1 Anges McCoalop, So	de
			1985: TORRENTIAL 9-0 L'Desori (7-4 ter) J Gosden 12 ran	1
			FORM FOCUS	

FORM FOCUS

DOMAK AMAAM 21el 2nd of 12 to Prototi is residen at Newcastle (6f, good to Sent) with to Lumberto in majden at Sandown (7f, good to Second Time Lucty in maiden auction at Warwick Selection: DOMAK AMAAM

3.05 CYSTIC FIBROSIS RESEARCH CUP HANDICAP (£5,120: 2m 2f) (21 runners) 401 (17) 408341- MEANT TO BE 11J (F.S) (Lady Mountons) Lady Hernes 6-9-13..... J Reid 8

402	(1)	319008-	BLAZE AWAY 201 (F.C) (P Methon) Balding 5-9-13 L Debon	93
403	(10)	210/00-0	EVEZIO RUFO 23 (S) (T Clarke) N Littmoden 4-9-13 T G McLasghin	_
404	(1)	111310-	SALAMAN 160 (D.F.G) (Lady Cohen) J Danlop 4-9-10 W Carson	90
405	(15)	151 0 -11	OLD PROVENCE 37 (C.F.6) (T Dauson) R Herrs 6-9-9 A Maday	90
405	(14)	06/00/	SATIN LOVER 8041 (C.F.G) (D Half) Nin; M Reveloy 8-9-8 A Cultane	_
407	(19)		TORICH VERT 22J (F,S) (F Green) N Walker 4-9-5	97
408	(11)	030034-	MONDRAGON 231 (F.G) (D Young) Mrs M Reneiny 5-8-4 K Darley	88
409	(4)	140000-	SHADIRWAN 69J (F,S) (C Batt) R Alester 2 5-9-4 T Dume	93
410	(21)		LALINDI 76J (F.G.S) (White Horse Rector) D Eleventh 5-9-2 Pat Eddery	88
411	(5)		BN VACANCES 155 (S) (Lambourn Valley Racing) A Forter 4-9-1 . T Sprake	8
412	(18)		SEA FREEDOM 20J (Miss B Swra) G Balting 5-8-12 S Drowna (3)	94
413	(13)		ELBURG 38 (F) (Abs A Gample) R Hoad 6-8-12	80
414	(16)		MIZYAN 201 (F.G) (J Blanchi) J Banks 8-8-10 R Cochrane	90
415	(9)		UPPER MOUNT CLAIR 35 (CD,F,G) (C Britain) C Britain 6-8-5 8 Doyle	94
416	181		HARD LOVE 13 (6) (P Henningsay) J Eyre 4-8-4 R Lappin	94
417	(2)		SHAKIYR 30 (G) (L & R Roadlines) R Holdinshead 5-8-4 F Lynch (5)	97
418	(3)		GENTLEMAN SID 15J (DJF) (Miss J Collison) P Marphy 6-7-12 N Adams	88
419	(6)		NOYAN SJ (BF.F.S) (C McGhie) D Nicholls 6-7-11 L Charnock	88
420	αzi		COLEROGE 27 (B,CD.F.G.S) (P Sheehard J Sheehan 8-7-10 J Darton	98
421	(20)		TIP JHE DONE 342 (C Price) R Price 7-7-10 N Carlisle	_
			ay, 6-1 Upper Mount Clair 7-1 En Vacancas, Torch Vert, 8-1 Meant To Be Fiburg, 1	IA.1
		1 1 mby	th' next oblight before come and the first services and the come?	

1995: UPPER MOUNT CLAST 5-8-7 B Dovice (33-1) C Britain 14 ran FORM FOCUS

MEANT TO BE beat Greycost Boy short-head in 12-moner transfer and Acad (2m. soft) SAL AMAN to beat Non Virtuge 344 in a 4-moner conditions race at Portelated (2m. 21 good to limit) on perutitimate start. OLD PROVENCE beat kymin 344 in 8-mones to 10.0 PROVENCE beat kymin 344 in 8-mones to 10.0 PROVENCE beat kymin 344 in 8-mones at 10.0 provention (4M. 2m.) COLLERIOSE 244 2nd of 10 to Jarach in handlesp at Longfield (4M. 2m.). Selection: UPPER MOUNT CLAR

GUIDE TO OUR PACECARD

consist and vestical values. Or — begand involving in latest races, locing on wisch house has won (F — firm, good to lirm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, beauty). Dwent in brachets. Trainer, Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicappor's rating.

3.40 WILLIAM HILL SPRING MILE HANDICAP

ìl.	,290): 1,m str)	(24 runners)	
Q 1	(22)	4/50050-	NEW CENTURY 150 (F) (W Kelly) D Nacholis 4-9-10 W Ryan	1
02	ÒΔ	222363-	COOK, EDGE 145 (F) (H H Chard) M Tomplats 5-9-9 P Robleson	
03	(11)		MOCHT WINK 146 (D.F.S) (Mrs D Benjamin) D Nicholis 4-9-9 . Alex Grasnes	ŧ
04	(4)	01400-5	SMART GUEST 181 (D.G.S) (P Murphy) J A Harris 4-9-9 Date Gibson	٤
05	(12)	20-1144	CELESTIAL CHOIR 16 (CD.F.6.S) (Mrs C Syles) J Eyre 8-9-9 R Lappin	9
06	(21)		SOTOBOY 162 (C,F) (Lérs M. Hollis) P Harris 4-9-9	5
07	(8)	0/20606-	HAM N'ESSS & (D.F) (MHOG Racing) M Harrmond 5-9-9 K Darley	į
ŮĠ.	(16)	405062	AEROKING 162 (G) (PST Group) & Herwood 5-8-8 A Clerk	•
09	(9)	25/4451-	SAMWAR 94 (6) (Maygain Uki) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-7 R Hughes	ŧ
16	(A)	2/312-64	NEUWEST 20 (D,F) (P Green) N Walter 4-9-7 J Stack (3)	ŧ
11	ĊΟ	50040-0	PETOSKEN 20 (V,S)(Losers Group) J Pezzer 4-9-7 6 Bardwell	
12			MB/RIZ 280 (F) (Normandy Developments) R Aleburst 4-9-7 T Optim	į
13	(23)	200401-	EUROLINK THE RESEL 321 (B,C,D,F) (M Dennis) M Hammon) 4-9-8 M Has	ŧ
14	(14)	50-5005	COUNTRY LOVER 33 (V.D.F.G.) (6 Brunton) Lord Hustington 5-9-6 () Harrison	9
15	(18)	403633-	BAGSHOT 112 (F.S.) (6 Teo) R Harmon 5-9-5 Pal Eddery	1
16	(17)	02021-2	MISTER FIRE EYES 23 (B,C,F,G,S) (C Olloy) C Britain 4-9-4 B Doyle	É
17	(19)	2140-38	BARREL OF HOPE 56 (B.G.S.) (P Watson) J Eyre 4-9-3 J Fortene	1
ιð	(5)	124000-	KNOBBLESVEEZE 160 (V.C.D.F.G.S) M. Charmon 6-9-2 P.P. Marphy (5)	8
19	(15)	210/001-	BEST OF ALL 141 (D.F.S) (R Aint) J Berry 4-9-2 J Carroll	Ē
20	(20)	2040/16	TULU 271 (D.G.S) (M Houston) Mrs. J. Ramaden 5-9-2 K Fallon	9

8ETTING: 11-2 Milhitz, 8-1 Misser Fire Eyes, Sammer, 10-1 Bagshot, 14-1 Celestial Chair, Date Valentina, Solotory, 16-1 Country Lover, Night, Wink, Tulu, 20-1 Accolong, Cool Edga, Eucolini: The Retsel, 25-1 others 1995: SHARP PROSPECT 5-9-2 T Colon (8-1) R Alethurst 23 can

FORM FOCUS

SIS

THE HAPPY FOX about 11/1 4th of 10 to Croil Pool to tendicap here (51, good to firm) MIGHBORN best Seigneumal local in 11-numer rated states at the Excester (51, soil) on perultimate start. BRECON-Bedon (81, firm) with TILER (5th better of) 11/1 handscap at Thirds (51, good to firm). August 1985. ANDINYSEPRAT RAPINS two short-heads and of 20 to Bayan Ross handscap at Chestow (81, soil) on perultimate start with ANDIO (110 better of) 22 4th FANTASY RAPINS (50, good to firm). August 1985. ANDINYSEPRAT SART (55th better of) 31/1 31/1 31/1 MONT-SEPRAT (55th better of) 31/1 31/1 MONT-SEPRAT (55th bett

Pennekamp misses Cup

PENNEKAMP, last year's 2,000 Guineas winner, was withdrawn from the Dubai World Cup yesterday because of injury. Pentire and Needle Gun represent Britain in the first running of the world's richest race at Nad Al Sheba in five days' time.

4.10 HOLROYD CONSTRUCTION GROUP HANDICAP (£4,898: 6f) (22 runners)

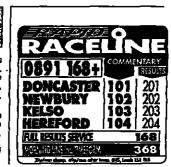
BETTRIC: 8-1 Portend, Tier. Sir Jory, Anzio, 10-1 Castierez Lad, Montserral, Sycamore Log Jokon, 16-1 Lord High Admiral, Rockelle Pile, Fantacy Racing, 20-1 To The Roof, 25-1 others 1995: CASTLEREA LAD 6-9-4 W Ryan (14-1) R Hollmethead 22 ran

FORM FOCUS

TRAINERS: J Gosden, 30 winners from 134 runners, 22.4%; R Chariton, 6 from 32, 18.8%; 8 Hills, 21 from 19, 17.6%; J Dunlop, 16 from 104, 15.4%; M Channon, 10 from 66, 15.2%; J Berry, 15 from 109, 13.8% JOCKEYS: M Hills, 24 winners from 136 rides, 17 6%; Pat Eddery, 30 from 180, 16 7%; L Detton, 27 from 164, 16.5%; K Darley, 31 from 211, 14.7%; R Hughes, 4 from 28, 14 3%; W Carson, 26 from 192, 13.5%.

COOL EDGE efforts lest season include 11 3rd of 30 to Sansah in handlesp at Measmarket (7), good to family with KNOSELEENEZE. (4th better off) 91 16th and MRSTR PRIE EYES (3th better off) 91 16th and MRSTR PRIE EYES (3th better off) 92 30th. MRSTR TRIE TWOK beat Prive Right Lot 5 in 14-ranner handlesp at Redox (1m, tirm) on perulatrice start. CHORR about 694 4th of 11 to Rever Keen in handlesp at Wolverfamption (4W, im 4f). AEPICKING 194 2nd of 20 to Tayases in handlesp at Southwell (4W, im 4f). AEPICKING 194 2nd of 20 to Tayases in handlesp at Southwell (4W, im 4f). AEPICKING 194 2nd of 20 to Tayases in handlesp at MRSTR RIFE EYES (2m) of 9 to Mapte Bay in handlesp at Lecester (5), sont or povultimate start. SAARWAR best Enant 6 in 9-runner majdsin at Lingfield (4W, 7f). 30 to 19 to MRSTR RIFE EYES (195) of 10 to Cassy in modern at Lecester (1m, good) or perulatrice start is Southwell (4W, 7f). MRSTR RIFE EYES (1m, good) or perulatrice start is Southwell (4W, 7f). Sefection MRSTR RIFE EYES (nap)

DONCASTER. SPECIALISTS



NEWBURY THUNDERER

1.50 Penncaler, 2.25 Southampton, 2.55 Flying Gunner, 3.25 St Mellion Fairway, 4.00 Pashto, 4.35

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (CHASE COURSE): SOFT (HURDLES)

1.50 WANTAGE MOVICES HURDLE (£3,225. 3m 110yd) (18 runners)

•	_E16	ACT OF FAITH 34 (S) N GERBER 6-11-12 LUSTERSY 30
	7 10	HE I LAND OF LOS IN COLUMN COL
	7713	HARDING 10 (C,S) S Mellor 5-11-12 N Marin 91
		water conservation at a Page, 7-11-17 T. I Marchy (3) PA
	151	Marie descend in (2) is possed in
	E100	KING GREEACH 10 (5) K Bailey 7-11-12 T J Marphy (3) BP PURBECK CAVALIER 20 (5) Mrs J Retter 7-11-12 A P McCoy B3
7	0100	Political Control of the Paleston 7-11-12 W Marchan R9
	3323	BULLETED DATE OF STATE OF STATE OF STATE S
7	8000	FRENCH BUCK 20 (B.G.) N Twiston-Daves 6-11-4 T Jeriks 59
	243	D Promoter 07
	.262	PENINCALER 20 P Hootis 6-11-4 R Denimondy 97
	-303	CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY SELECTION OF THE PROPERTY OF THE PR
10	- R-	PRINCE CANUTE 363P Mrs R Henderson 6-11-4
		Mr. J Cultury (5) -
		77

11 GAPO OUARRY HOUSE 16 (B) 0 Chappal 6-11-4 G Bradley 77
12 900- RANDOW RUMMER 363 Mrs P Dutheld 5-11-4 F P Holley - 13 4900 SPACEAGE GOLD 22 J D0f 7-11-4 G Upton 64
14 000 SPACEAGE FORD 22 J D0f 7-11-4 J F Tibley 71
15 WELCOME CALL 0 Shewbod 6-11-4 J Datamer - 16 - 900 GEMMAS WAGER 10 M Campon 6-10-13 J Raillon - 17 0SU J0Y FOR LIFE 15 R Stronge 5-10-13 R Stronge - 15 USO BLAZING MERACLE 9 Mrs. R Henderson 4-10-3 Mrs. R Henderson -

ems it represents —

11-4 What's Your Story, 4-1 lung Guseach, 6-1 Act Of Faith, 8-1 Welcome Call, Harding, Penncaler, 12-1 Bullens Bay 16-1 others.

2.25 FARINGDON HANDICAP CHASE

1 54-5 YOUNG SNUCERT 97 (CD.F.C.S) 0 Sherwood 12-12-0 J Deborne 13 - 134 WEE RIVER 23 (D.F.C.S) 6 Moore 7-11-6 ... J Calleghere 90 0 GMS JAMES THE REST 13 (D.F.C.S) P Mondic 8-10-8 ... P Hote 97 4 3153 SOLITHAMPTON 11 (6F.F.G.S) 6 Baiding 6-10-2 ... A P McCoy 98 15-8 Young Snught 5-2 Wee River, 3-1 Southampton, 4-1 James The First

COURSE SPECIALISTS

NEWBURY: Transers: O Stetwood, 19 sensers from 77 numers, 24.7%, D Nicholon, 27 from 116, 23.3%, N Henderson, 25 from 116, 23.7%, N Henderson, 25 from 116, 21.6%, M Page, 18 from 88, 20.5%, Ms J Pitman, 12 from 71, 16.5%, S Sherwood, 7 from 42, 16.7%, Juncheys, J Dobrune, 42 winners from 156 idea, 25.3%, R Dumeroody, 39 from 155, 25.2%, W Merston, 9 from 32, 23.1%, P Holley, 15 from 77, 19.5%, J Titley, 3 from 18, 16.7%, C Lievethyn, 11 from 102, 10.6%

KELSO: Transers: Mrs J Storey, 4 winners from 8 runners, 50.0%: Mrs M Reveley, 43 from 137, 31 4%, 1 Tale, 4 from 14, 29,6%, Mrs J Goodfellon: 14 from 50, 20 6%, Mrs J Russell, 3 from 11, 27.3%, Jockeys: P North, 50 winners from 136 notes, 36.8%, P Carberry, 4 from 15, 26.7%, A Dobbyn, 26 from 121, 21.5%, M Mokoney, 15 from 72, 20.8%, 9 Storey, 25 from 162, 15.4%.

2.55 SABIN DU LOIR MAIDEN HURDLE

1	04	ASYMMEAU RAMBLES 18 P HOURS 6-11-9 6 PRIMITY (4)	-
ż	343/	COMEY ROAD 749 C Blooks 7-11-9 G Bradley	-
3	0	∩Δ.ERAAN 23 N Twiston-Usines 7-31-9 C Lizhi##y#	_
ā	3	FASY BREEZY 35 () Sherwood 6-11-9	83
5	42	FINE SIR 538 / Thomson Jones 6-11-9 A Tory	79
6	E33	FLYING GUNNER 60 0 Nicholson 5-11-9 R Bellamy	90
	032	GARNWIN 36 N Henderson 6-11-9 M A Fitzgerald	24
- 1	-240	GANGRAN ON A PRODUCTION OF 11-3 IN A 1 220-40	×
8	02	GENERAL PONGO 9 1 George 7-11-9 J Ration	73
9	•	GRANHAM PRIDE 129 (S) K Balley 6-11-9 H Durmoody	-
10	2/4	HARRY THE HORSE 25 J Old B-11-9 G Uplon	-
iĭ	5500	JUST'N ACE 21 J Enterd 5-11-9 P Hide	39
	JAKE	MY WARRIOR 501 (F) M Campion 8-11-9 B Califord	_
12	100	MANAGOR SOI (F) A CAMPAN B-11-5 D CAMPAN	ā
73	232	PALOSANTO 27 M Pige 5-11-9 D Bridgmetter	鲠
14	nenn	PHICH THE REAL PROPERTY IN THE	44
16	2	SPEEDY SNAPSGEM 21 (BF) P Hobbs (-11.9. M Moran (7)	_
12	op.	STONE BRAMBLE 382 Mess H knight B-11-9 J F Thirty	_
		SWEET TRENTING 18 M Tale 5-11-9 B Femion (3)	78
17	0 - 0.3	ZMAT I HEMING I I M IND 2-11-2 " D Leiden fol.	***
18	5325	THE GREY FRIAR 34 Mass H Knight 7-17-9 . Mr J Cullety (5)	33
10	0240	THE REVEREND BERT 9 & Balding 8-11-9 . A P MCCGOY	97
- 55	~~~	THE TOISEACH 104 (BF) J Farstone 5-11-9 T J Murphy (3)	_
au au	U	THE TOTAL PLANT IN THE TAIL OF THE PARTY OF	_
21	1/	VITAMAN 702 (F) Mrs J Pilman 7-11-9 . W Marston	_
0.7	31	Ace, 5-1 Flying Gunner, 6-1 Dathson, Easy Breezy, 8-1 Palosa	olo.
	N M	(c. 10-1 Vitaman, 12-1 Harry The Horse, 14-1 others.	-
	544 EAS	6' (G-1 Attacent (S-1 tend us union' 14-1 cours	

3.25 BETTERTON NOVICES CHASE (£4,118.3m) (3) 1 -11F ST MELLION FARRWAY ST (D.B.S) D Nicrolison 7-11-12 R Democracy 98 2 1/92 SUPER GOSSIP 28 (F) P Hedger 7-11-4 . M A Regeratio 80 3 4242 DOM SAMOURAI 65 (B.S) M Pipe 5-11-2 . . . D Bridgerater EB

4-11 Si Melkon Fairway, 3-1 Dem Samoura, 12-1 Super Gossap 4.00 PAUL CROUCHER MEMORIAL TROPHY

HANDICAP CHASE (£4,500; 2m 4f) (6) 1 -5-4 AROUND THE HOPM 97 (C.5.5) J Shord 9-12-0 ... P Hide 91
2 4-P1 PASHTO 15 (D.F.G.S) N Henderson 9-12-0 ... M A Regerald 98
3 FPU6 WISE APPROACH 6 (D.F.G.S) K Barkey 9-11-8 ... J Radion 94
4 POUJ ALL FOR LUCK 10 (D.D.S.S) M Pipe 11-11-4 ... D Bridgerald 98
5 DOGM MCCLE JOE 18 (D.F.G.S) M Tale 10-10-0 ... W Ministron 95
6 PUG2 WYLAM 20 (D.F.G.S) J Gilbord 9-10-0 ... L Aspel (7) 95

5-4 Pacheo, 3-1 Around The Horn, 6-1 Wylam, 8-1 Nickle Joe, 10-1 others. 4.35 NEWBURY RACECOURSE STATION HANDICAP

HURDLE (4-Y-0: £3,396; 2m 110yd) (7)

☐ The National Stakes at the Curragh will be sponsored by the Aga Khan's Irish studs this September. The group one race will be named

the Aga Khan Studs National Stakes.

7-4 Harrollon Silk, 4-1 Centaer Express, Petrahodespetal, 6-1 Gaitheyn, 8-1 offers.

KELSO

THUNDERER 2.15 Three Wild Days, 2.45 Calthness Cloud, 3.15 Brambleberry, 3.50 Stormy Coral, 4.20 Final Hope, 4.50 Shallow River, 5.20 Master Nova. The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 2.15 THREE WILD DAYS.

Carl Evans: 4.20 Final Hope.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES)

2.15 PERCY ARMS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE (£2,814: 2m 2l) (11 runners)

2.45 ERIC SCARTH NOVICES CHASE

(£3,820: 2m 1f) (10) 12.5.3.207. 2011 11) (10)

1 3433 BRIARY'S DELIGHT 17 (V.F.G) H Altan 8-11-2. L Wyer
2 -322 CANTHIESS CLOUD 23 (S) C Parter 8-11-2. B Storey
3 FP CUSH SUPREME 50 (BP) F Murphy 7-11-2. P Carberry
4 SBUZ DEVELTY 16 (9.5) 6 Moore 6-11-2. N Beartley
5 -005 DOMANO MGTT 86 G PICTATES 6-11-2. A Dobbte
6 -960 GULER-A 62 P Crayes 8-11-2. N Smith
7 4534 LIVE AND LET LIVE 22 PA MSS L Russett 12-11-2. M Foster
8 49-U THOMAS THE TANK 133 R Golde 12-11-2. R Supple
9 SP GROUSE-N-HEATHER 21 P Monteith 7-10-11. D Parter
10 6545 SUST MOLLY 24 W Reed 9-10-11. I Parter
3 Debits A 4 Partner Chart 2-7 Branch Delight 8-1 Destron Molly 14-1 and

2-1 Denity, 9-4 Continess Cloud, 7-2 Brar's Delight, 8-1 Domino Night, 14-1 Just Mally, 16-1 Guier-A, 20-1 others 3.15 SPORT OF KINGS CLASSIC RACEWEAR

HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,814: 2m 2l) (8) 1 1030 COOUL LAVE 27 (CD,S) J Dun 9-11-12. D Parker (S)
2 1556 DANCING DOVE 13 (CD,F 9) 9 Retents 8-11-9. A Dobbin
3 0043 COOL LINE 13 (F,S) 6 Moore 7-11-3. P Carberty
4 1043 BRANDE ISBERTY 11 (CD,E 5) Mrs 5 min 7-11-1. R Quest
5 3-22 SUPPRIME SOVIET 38 A Whitians 6-10-3. M Minioney
6 513- WELL APPOINTED 329 (F) 8 Machagant 7-10-3. L Wyer
7 4P1- CASUAL PASS 297 (CD,E 5); L Lungo 13-18-0. F Parket
8 P-04 MUSIC BLITZ SS Mrs 0 Thomson 5-10-0. B Cabill (S)

11-4 Supreme Screet, 3-1 Cool Lute, 5-1 Coop; tare, 11-2 Branchisterry, 6-1 Coop; tare, 8-1 Well Appointed, 14-1 offers.

<u>and the second of the control of the second of the second</u>

3.50 KING'S OWN SCOTTISH BORDERERS CHALLENGE CUP (Handicap chase: £4,221: 3m 1f) (8) 7 -21U CELICH BOY 6 (B.C.F.G.S.) Nrs J Goodfellow 10-11-12 R Guest 2 2415 EMERALD STORM 20 (CD.F.G.S.) P Monteth 9-11-11

3 3-P3 ALTS ALES 17 (CD,S,S) Mrs M Reveloy 9-11-9
4 4-G3 WAYUPHEL 17 (S) J J O'Nell 9-10-5 A Roche (S)
5 -400 VAYRILA 17 (G,S,) J Hellers 11-10-2 A Dobbin
6 -111 STORMY CORAL 53 (E,S) C Patrer 6-10-1 B Storey
7 6-SP BENERHAZ 33 (S) A Thereton 12-10-0 D Parter (S)
8 316- EASTER (DATS 326 (F,S) R Golde 9-10-1 R Supple 2-1 Stormy Coral, 11-4 Greendt Storm, 4-1 Ceilidh Soy, 6-1 A6's Alibi, 8-1 Wayughal, 74-1 Vayna, 20-1 others.

4.20 J RUTHERFORD EARLSTON HUNTERS CHASE (Amateurs: \$2,211: 3m 41) (8) 1 4-511 FNAL HOPE 2DF (F.S.) R Tate 8-12-2... Mrs F Needsom (7)
2 21-22 ROYAL JESTER 21 (C.BF.F.G.S) Mrs J Stoney 12-12-2
3 P-321 PARLEBIZ 14 (F.S.) A Wegts 7-11-11 A Robstom (7)
4 2-561 BOW HANDY MAN 2DP (D.F.G.S.) J Glockse 14-11-10
5 1R3-P MR DPLUMATIC 8 (B.S.S.) J Lievelled Patres 13-11-10
M Rodburge (7)

6 2J-3P POLITICAL ISSUE 20P (C.F.S.) 7 Robson 12-11-10 M Brachure (7)
7 -85.15 TDDDLM HAME 6P (5) W Hodge 14-11-10 . 7 Didcook (7)
8 401P BRTLEY SPE 884 (6) D Hambinson 12-11-5 . R Hale (5)
3-1 Rind Hope, 7-2 Royal Jester, 9-2 Particles, 5-1 Boar Hamby Man, 6-1 Polescal Issue, 8-1 Bettley Srif. 16-1 others 4.50 FAMOUS GROUSE NATIONAL HUNT

NOVICES HURDLE (Div I: £2,541: 2m 6f 110yd) (10)

5-4 Shallow Piver, 6-1 Dassy Days, 8-1 Current Monry, 10-1 Strongatory, Spring Call, Turkish Tower, 12-1 others 5.20 FAMOUS GROUSE NATIONAL HUNT

NOVICES HURBLE (DIV II: £2,541: 2m 6f 110yd) (10) 1 324 TOUGH REST 107 (CD.) Mrs J Goodleton 6-11-5 F Perratt
2 0250 DESERT BRAVE 20 Mrs 5 Smith 8-10-12. R Goest
3 5-56 GARBO'S BOY 118 J Turser 6-10-12. W Fry
4 05 KENMARE RIVER 72 R College 5-10-12. L Wyor
5 4-22 MASTER ROWA 22 (Br.3) M Camacho 8-10-12 P Noven
6 P THE ALAMO 15 R College 5-10-12. P Cathory
7 - LIDO BLACK MAGIC WICKMAN 15 J Helberts 8-10-7 A Dobbos
8 DPOB DAMMA TRAO 15 (V) D Modiati 6-10-7. D J Modiati
9 0-00 GAME POINT 58 D Lamb 7-10-7 A Manners (7)
10 POPN MAGARI 352P 1 Park 7-10-7 M Smith

B-11 Master Nova, 7-1 Deseri Brave, Tough Test, 10-1 Garbo's Boy 12-1 Kenmare River, 14-1 The Alamo, 16-1 others

Timeform Book FREE TIMEFORM HORSES TO FOLLOW



MIT THE BIT SAME WEE 11/2 Mihriz 20/1 Eurolink The Rebel

20/1 Ham N'eggs 8/1 Mister Fire Eyes 8/1 Samwar . 20/1 Neuwest 25/1 Best Of All 11/1 Bagshot 14/1 Celestial Choir 25/1 Golden Pound 28/1 Knobbleeneeze 14/1 Duke Valentino 28/1 Lynton Lad 33/1 Barrel Of Hope 14/1 Sotoboy 16/1 Country Love 16/1 Night Wink 16/1 Tukı 33/1 Dances With Hooves 33/1 New Century 40/1 Petoskin 20/1 Aeroking

20/1 Cool Edge 66/1 Smart Guest Each way One Quarter the odds a place 1, 2, 3, 4. Praces subject to fluctuation. Available up to 3,25pm, Tattersalls Rule 4(c) may apply. Non runner – no bet. LATEST ODDS ON WINGON HIS TY TEXT

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PRICES SURVICE TO PLUCTUATION

Clubs and unions seek way forward



RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE doubt and uncertainty that has shrouded the future structure of rugby union in the northern hemisphere may lift after the series of meetings taking place this week, though no one will guarantee it. In particular, the framework of European club competition should become clearer.

The Rugby Football Union (RFU), whose executive committee chairman, Cliff Brittle, left, appealed for unity this week, met representatives of the English first division clubs in London yesterday; today it is the turn of the French clubs, who gather at the office of the French federation in Paris, while tomorrow the Welsh rugby union is due to thrash

The questions under debate are much the same in all three countries, but the Paris meeting is of particular significance since it is the first time that the federation has recognised officially the existence of the Union des Clubs, the 40strong association presided over by Seraphin Berthier, who is the treasurer of the powerful Grenoble club.

The fundamental issue is the funding of the game at club level in the professional era. Hitherto, the clubs in all three countries have been accustomed to their national union distributing sponsorship money; now they seek to do it for themselves. Against that must be balanced the trump card of

international rugby, which the unions hold. In the immediate, and possibly long-term. future the game will gain exposure not through club rugby but through its international programme, which also offers commercial possiblities for the better players. The unknown factor is the

degree to which both sides are prepared to compromise. The key to progress appears to be the Heineken Cup, which the clubs believe offers them new money, through fresh commercial and television arrangements - though it seems unfortunate that so far there has been little consultation with the brewing company which, like ITV, has options for a further two years on a contract understood to be worth some £20 million.

ship of the Welsh league ends this season, is looking at marketing opportunities on the continent and believes that an expanded European tournament, shown to millions on terrestrial television, represents better value than the double-decker competition formula backed by satellite tele-

vision towards which the clubs are groping.

Meanwhile, European Rugby Cup Limited (ERC), the organiser of the Heineken Cup on behalf of the five nations, waits patiently to hear the names of next season's participants. Ireland's and Scotland's leading three provinces are already nominated, as are Toulouse, the holders, and Brieve, winners of the du Manoir competition, in the French club championship. The leading Irish clubs are due to meet Syd Millar, the Irish Rugby Football Union president, on March 31. ERC wants to proceed with

a 20-club competition next season, knowing that it can extend the tournament's horizons as soon as it likes, such is the interest from Italy, Russia. Spain and Holland. The English and Welsh clubs want to bring in the rest of their first division bretheren and establish a second-tier competition. though the playing benefits of such an event may be limited. Matthew Lewis, the Bridgend stand-off half, has become the second Welsh to sign for Wasps. He will join Neath lock, Glyn

RADIO CHOICE

What is inside the letter?

Letter from America. Radio 4.9.15pm

Although you would never have known it if the only radio listings you read are in Radio Times, tonight's edition of Alastair Cooke's Letter from America is a milestone occasion. It marks the first half century of these matchless essays. The actual anniversary falls on Sunday, which allows Radio Times to make amends for making tonight's edition appear to be just another one. Its next issue will mention the anniversary. What you should have read in Radio Times is that tonight's Letter from America will be a re-recorded version of Cooke's first letter of March 24 1946. It was about GI wives. If I know Alastair Cooke, he will be indulging in some personal memory-stirring too.

For Love Not Money. Radio 2, 7.00pm.

Alan Titchmarsh, a versatile professional to his finger tips, once Aian Intermarsh, a versathe professional to his singer tips, once strutted the amateur stage. This, plus his ability correctly to define the word amateur (lover of) without going all dewy-eyed on us, makes him the ideal person to present this series about amateur art in Britain. Apparently, 23 million of us are at it in some way or other. It's the doorway to stability, says the head of the Voluntary Arts Network. Far from being one of life's extras, he believes it is a natural part of human existence. So much for the culture snobs. Tonight's programme takes in set dancing in Northern Ireland, blind and partially sighted potters in Oxford, and full-throated gospel singing in Handsworth, Birmingham.

Peter Davalle

Balshaw shines in sevens victory

By a Correspondent

IAIN BALSHAW, an England schools full back. masterminded Stonyhurst's second open title at the national seven-a-side rugby union competition at Rosslyn Park yesterday. Balshaw, playing for the first time in the world's largest sevens tournament. scored an outstanding 16 tries during the competition and two in his school's 29-10 win in the final against Glantaf.

A schools cricket cap for Lancashire, Balshaw showed his versatility by hauling his side back into the tournament earlier in the day when they were on the verge of going out in both the quarter- and semifinal stages.

Against Glantaf, who had beaten a fellow Welsh side. Hawthorn, in the quarter-final, three tries in the first half, one from Balshaw, were enough to ensure Stonyhurst would take their seventh sevens win of the season.

Another try from Balshaw, and one from Gerald Maughan, sent them into a 29-0 lead. Although Glantaf hit back with two scores, the cup had already been won.

Stonyhurst had strugled, however, in the semifinal, trailing 15-14 with two minutes left of their game against Wimbledon College, before Mark Morris dived over to clinch

VICTORY. For Glantaf, their attentions turn to the Welsh schools semi-final. On Monday, they face Crosskeys College.

Results, page 39

Hastings steps uneasily into new role



Gavin Hastings follows a familiar routine in the unfamiliar suit of an Amercian footballer as he adjusts to his new lifestyle with the Scottish Claymores at their training camp in Carrollton, Georgia (Richard Wetherell writes). The former Scotland rugby union captain, who is being groomed as a kicker, said the experience is a culture shock, but every day I learn a bit more".

Hastings, who unsurprisingly has been given a No 15 shirt, played down his chances of making the starting line-up when the World League season opens next month. "It would have been easier to keep playing international rugby," he said.

Hastings has been at the camp for two weeks. At a scrimmage, a practice against another team on Tuesday, when he kicked one out of three field goals, Hastings was unnerved by not knowing what to do when he came on to the pitch. He described it as "panic stations". "Where to you place the ball? Where do you run to? Do you go into the huddle with the rest of the guys? These are questions you have to know the answers to."

Scotland's record points scorer knows that the Claymores would love to have him in the team, but he is reluctant to commit himself. His feelings have not changed since he agreed to join them last

month, when he said: "If I kick like an idiot, I won't be coming back as a Scottish Claymore - it's as simple as that."

Hastings is also aware that he benefits from the World League regulation that seven of the team must be European. "If they didn't have any national players, I would not be here."

His main rival for the kicking job is Paul McCallum, who played in the Canadian Football League last year, and whose parents were born in Scotland. That may be a nice hook, but certainly less of an attraction than Hastings would be to entice people to Murrayfield.

either way.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren 6.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Symon Mayo 12.00 Lisa l'Anson, ind at 12,30-12,45pm Naysbeat, and at 1,15 The Net 2,00 Nicky Campbel 4,00 Mark Gooder, ind at 5,30-5,45 Newsbeat, 6,15 The Net and at 6,30 The Mix 7,00 Essential Selection 10,00 John Peel 1,00am Partin I Sen Show Radio 1 Rap Show

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jinnty Young 2.00pm Debble Thrower 3.30 Alex Lester 5.05 Paul Heiney 7.00 For Love Not Money. See Choice 7,30 Friday Night is Music Night 8,45 Bogarde on Film (3/7) 9,00 Usten to the Band 10,00 larr Anderson, Radio 2 Aris Programme 12,05am Digby Farweather 1,00 Charles Nove

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00em Morring Reports 6.00 The Brezktast Programme. Incl 6.55, 7.55 racing preview 8.35 The Magazine, incl 11.30 Science News 12.00 Midday with Matr, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck: and at 1.15 Entertairment News 2.05 hasce at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05
Pluscoe on Five, incl. at 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 Nationwide, incl. at 5.45
Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra
7.35 Alan Green's Sponstalk 8.35 Of
Prise 9.05 American Graffitt 9.35 Stop
Press 10.05 Entertainment Superhighway, with Quentin Cooper 11.00 Night
Extra, incl. at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night, with Richard Dallyn TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Wart 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raebum 4.00 Scott Chisholm 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz Dee 10.00 Mike Allen 1.00-6.00am Mike

WORLD SERVICE

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All times in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 5.30 Europe Today 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Off the Shelf 7.30 Minehelds 8.00 News 8.10 Shelf 7.30 Minehelds 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Music Review 9.00 News in German 9.15 Faith 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 SBC English 10.45 Cit the Shelf 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Mendain 12.00 News 12.05pm Business 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Science in Action 1.00 Newshour 2.00 News 2.05 Outfook 2.30 Musichack 3.00 News in German 3.15 Music Review 4.00 News in German 3.15 Music Review 4.00 News in German 7.00 News 5.30 Business 5.45 Sport 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 News in German 7.00 News Summary 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Mutimack 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 Business 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 People and Politics 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The New Europe 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Spotlight 11.15 Minefields 11.45 Farming Mildnight Newsdesk 12.30am From the Weekdess 12.45 Britain Today 1.00 News 1.10 Faith 8.15 Music Review 9.00 News in 12.45 Britam Today 1.00 News 1.10 Review 1.15 Seven Days 1.30 Jazz 1.45 Good Books 2.00 Newsday 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 News 3.15 Spcrt 3.30 Vintage Charl Show 4.00 Newsdeck 4.30 Jazz 4.45 Seven Days

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Make Read 4.00cm Mark carmins out Make read 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susameh Simons 2.00pm Concerto3.00 Jenie Crick 8.00 Newnight 6.30 Schata 7.00 Verdict 8.00 Evening Concert Includes, Rossini (William Tell Overture); Holst (The Planets) 10,00 Michael Mappin

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Home 7.30 Paul Coyte 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am Howard

6.00am On Air. Vivaldi (Violin Conceito in G minor, Op 6 No 1); Poulenc (Organ Concerto in G minor); Gorecki (Euntes ibant et flebant); Schumann (Cello Concerto in A minor); Canteloube (Songs of the Auverone): Álkan (Concerto

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Boyce (Symphony in D. Op 2 No 5); Schumann (Kinderszenen); Schumenn (Symphony No 4 in D minor) cal Encounters with

Chris de Souza, Froberger
(Pfainte faite a Londres pour
passer la melancolie; Toccate
XI); Meditner (Sonse;
vocalise); Messiaen (Cinq
rechants, No 5); Prokoflev
(Finns Sonota No (Piano Sonata No 3 in A minor): Martinu (Symphony No 5); 11.00 Artists of the Week: Juilland Quartet Mozart (String Quartet in E flat, K614); 11.30 Messieen (O each mozakéhan). Afé (O sacrum convivium): Alfver

(U sazum convivumi); Anven (Swedish Rhapsody No 3, Dalarapsodi) Composers of the Weelc The Court of Frederick the Great. Bach (Musical Offering to Frederick); Zelania; (Sprogtes): C.P.E. Rech (sonatas); C.P.E. Bach

1.00pm Bristol Lunchtime Concert: Stravinsky Plus Concert: Stravinstry Plus, from St George's, Brandon Hill. Continuing a series of concerts featuring the music of Igor Stravinsky

Schools, Let's Make a Story 2.15 Music Box 2.30 Dance Warteshon 2.50 Eachty Compet

Workshop 2.50 Poetry Corner 3.00 The Fitting Mining the Archive: Come to the Festival of Britaini

4.20 The Fifties. Hits of the Fifties (3/4)

5.15 In Tune with Jeremy Nicholas. Including Rimsky Korsakov (Procession of the Nobles, Mada); Steiner

(Overture, King Kong); Paganini (Violin Concerto No. 1 in D)
7.30 The Fiftes. Towards the One, Pebble Mill, the third of four recitals of music from the 1950s. Andrew Ball, piano. performs Messiaen (Le Loriot, Catalogue d'oissaux); Copland (Fantasy), 8.15 Focus on the Fifties. Humphrey Burton talks to the three surviving members of the Amadeus Quartet, 8.35 akemitsu (Litany): Stockhausen (Piano Piece No 5); Shostakovich (Preludes and Fugues, Op 87: No 7 in A; No 12 in G sharp minor; No 15 in D flat, No 24 in D) 9.30 The Sonnet: Tony Harrison 9.50 The Fittles. Hear and Now.

Towards the Millennium. Birmingham Contemporary Music Group under Daniel Harding. Including Stockhausen (Zyklus for percussion); Cage (Aria for solo voice; Fontana mix), Messiaen (Oiseaux exotiques); Malcolm Lipkin (Oboe Concerto)
12.00-1.00am Britannia at the

Opera: Alfred (1753 version). Rodenc Dunnett presents extracts irom Thomas Arne's opera (r)

8.50 Points of Departure: Robert Fisk. The journalist Robert Fisk talks about his years of reporting from the war-tom and readily beautiful.

reporting from the war-tor and volatile Middle East

9.15 Letter from America See

Choice
9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature:
What's the Big idea? (r)

10.00 The World Tonight with

(5/10) (r)

11.00 Week Ending

11.25 Tea Junction with Patrick

Hea surrous will really
Hea surrous Heather
Hat Today in Parliament
12.00 News, incl 12.27am Weather
12.30 The Lab Book Metroland.

Julian Barnes reads his first

Robin Lustig
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Pienle at
Hanging Rock by Joan
Lindsay, Read by Lisa Hanow

9.59 Weather

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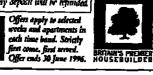
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South Africans heed rallying cry

FROM DAVID RHYS JONES IN ADELAIDE

THE cry of "Op die Bokke!" that rent the air at the Lockleys Bowls Centre inspired three South Africans to great feats in the final round-robin session of the triples at the world outdoor bowls championship

here yesterday. Perhaps their supporters had forgotten, for the moment, that the national emblem is no longer the springbok, but "up the Proteas!" does not have the same ring to it.

Theuns Fraser, Ashley Van Winkel and Kevin Campbell needed to beat Ian McClure, Gary McCloy and Noel Gra-ham, of Ireland, by at least 13 shots to secure a place in the semi-finals, but the Irish trio were rock steady for the first nine ends, by which stage the scores were level at 9-9. Campbell's men, however,

Answers from page 40

ABNEY

GONGORA

dirty little logan."

CANOT

WORD-WATCHING

(c) A small hand instrument used by surveyors for measuring

slopes and angles above the horizon. The eponym of Sir William

Abney (1844-1921). As in the Abney level. "The Abney level or

clinometer, which consists of a sighting tube fixed to a semicircular vertical plate marked in degrees, with a spirit level

(b) A plant or flower of the genus of tropical American orchids so named. A humble eponym from the proud name of Don Antonio

(b) An Irish Roman Catholic, a racist eponym from the fairly

common Irish surname from the backwoods, Dogan. "Many a

time I got a smart clout on the lug and was told to take that for a

(c) The French word for canoe, used in certain French phrases

relating to the Canadian fur trade. "The largest kind of canoes

used in the trade, viz., those which used to be dispatched from

Lachine, on first open water, to Fort William, Lake Superior, and

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

which were called Canots du Maître."

I Noo! and if I ... Qxf3 2 Rxd8 is mate.

attached to its index, is used to measure vertical angles."

Caballero y Góngora (fl. 1782). Viceroy of New Granada.

claimed a count of five on the four. Suddenly, Irish nerves eleventh end and four on the thirteenth, opening up a 20-9 advantage. Ireland seemed to have

stemmed the tide when they won two of the next three ends, reducing the margin to nine shots at 21-12. A count of three gave the South Africans a 24-12 lead and meant that whoever scored on the final end would advance to the last

started to jangle and the South Africans scored a decisive double. In the semi-finals today.

South Africa will take on Scotland, who came through their section unbeaten, and Australia meet New Zealand. who moved past England in one of the best matches of the championship. That encounter, between

England lead way home

ENGLAND retained the women's home international team bowls championship when they defeated Scotland 113-100 in Llanelli yesterday (Gordon Allan writes). Apart from a brief spell early in a rousing match, Scotland were forced to play catch-up bowls and England finished the

Wales secured third place with an easy win over Ireland,

with an easy win over I reland, who finished last, SCORES: Wales 148 Ireland 94 (Wales skips first): C Morgan lost to B Cameron 15-26: R Jones br N Montgomery 42-5; A Denton bt B Wyler 20-10; S Oliver lost to J Mutholiand 18-23: B Morgan bt M Johnston 20-14: D Rowlends bt M Melton 22-14 England 113 Scotleand 100 (England skips first): J Roylance lost to J Sylves 19-23: W Line bt E When 17-14; M Proce bt E McCarvle 19-13; N Shaw br J Lindores 24-19; M Steele bt F Hazdon 19-15; D Herkin lost to J Corlan 15-16

Brett Morley, David Cutler and John Bell, the England trio, could point to one end, mid-game, that led to their downfall Twice they built up good

amounted to a sudden-death

knockout and could have gone

positions, only to see Peter Belliss, the New Zealand skip, kill the end. On the second replay. New Zealand scored three shots and stole the initiative. in the seventeenth end, trail-

ing 13-17, England gambled. Bell fired, spot on target, and almost made four shots to tie the match; instead, New Zealand were left with a crucial count of five.

The play left England 22-13adrift and the match was virtually over.

Results, page 39

SNOW REPORTS

Conditions Runs to

	_ [_ u	Piste	On/p	resort			Show
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OV.	Kost pisti	es still is	n good sh	ede: som	e worn/ba	re patche	:s)	.45
St Anton	50	170	fair	heaw	skish	- Iak	7	12/3
	(Bare pa	riches o	rowina lo	w down: s	stili good a	i altitudel)	
Schladming	40	80	9000	ASUBO	SIUSN	ime	9	18/3
_	(Goo	d siding	With no b	tere patci	nes showin	g yet)		
FRANCE								
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	(Fresh s	enow an	nd mostly	oood skii	na: mbred i	visibility		-4/5
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Tignes	100	185	accad	vaned	art	fine	5	20/3
•	(Spring	conditi	ons: lowe	r stopes h	eavy in all	emoon)		
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RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing and weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather 9.00 News 9.05 Desert Island Dises. Lord Alexander (r) 9.45 Feedback 10.00-10.30 News: Beyond 5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather 6.00 Six O'Clock News 6.30 Going Places. David Stafford introduces more weekend activities and pastimes including collecting piranha fish in Glasgow
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 Pick of the Week with Chris

9.45 Feedback 10.00-10.30 News; Beyond Reasonable Doubt (FM 8.05 Any Questions? Jonathan Dimbleby chairs a debate in Motd, Chwyd. With Dr Kim Howells, MP. Shadow Trade and industry spokesperson; Ruth Lea. Head of Policy at the Institute of Directors; author Dr Rosalind Miles; and Rod Richards, MP. only). The files of murder cases are reopened to examine possible miscarriages of justice (1/5)
10.00 An Act of Worship (LW only)
10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)
10.30 Woman's Hour, Wendy Parliamentary Under-

Austin explores Mount Stewart garden in County Down Serial: Joyce Grentell Requests the Pleasure (3/10) 11.30 The Natural History Programme 12.00 News; You a

vs; You and Yours 12.25pm The Food Programme presented by Derek Cooper 12.55 Weather 1.00 The World at One, with Nick

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News; Classic Serial: The
Roads to Freedom, by Jean-Paul Sartre. Dramatised by Nigel Gearing (3/3) (r) 3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift

with Laurie Taylor

With Laurie Taylor

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleldoscope.

Tim Marlow explores an exhibition about David

Livingstone
4.45 Short Story: We're Not
Jews by Hanif Kurekhi. Read
by Eve Karpi

12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.90 As World Service

novel (5/10)

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 198. (12.45-5.55em). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO FM 105.8; MW 1187, 1215. TALK RADIO UK MW 1053, 1069. Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosessary Smith and Susan Thomson Source: Ski Club of Great British. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial.

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Unfairly assigned the lion's share of blame

t the end of Reputations (BBC2) last night, the actress Virginia McKenna summed up reaction to the real Joy Adamson, whom she'd memorably portrayed in the film Born Free. "You either thought she was incredible and wonderful, or you couldn't tolerate her," she said. There was no middle path." Banal as it may sound, this analysis came as a bit of a surprise. By this late stage, very little evidence had been found of anyone thinking Joy Adamson incredible or wonderful; she was by now bang to rights as a ruthless Teutonic man-eater with funny ideas about lions. Grizzled game park rangers, who had clearly always hated Joy Adamson for marrying their old mate George. leant on their guns and confided the source of their unease. "She was sexed up, if that's the expression," said one, hilariously, Well, it's not the expression, actually.

As a subject for a revisionist Reputations left Joy Adamson? exercise. Joy Adamson was easy prey. That Born Free film in 1966, celebrating love, coupledom, crossspecies adoration and khaki shorts, failed to mention that Joy married George in Kenya during the war because she was an enemy alien who faced internment. So she seduced him in the bush (if that's the right expression) and the rest is history. George was taciturn, with an alcohol and tobacco habit (considered "woman-proof" by his many fans) so it's unlikely he proved the best of husbands. But the unhappiness of the marriage was cheerfully pinned on Joy last night, echoing the game-hunter consensus. George was a good. simple bloke. That Joy actually turned to lions for love speaks of a marital desperation that has so far gone unremarked.

This posthumous demolition of famous people's personalities is not a comfortable thing. At least

achievements intact: Born Free had a huge effect on conservationist attitudes, and the syrupy film version included a sequence of Bill Travers and Virginia McKenna swimming either side of Elsa which made me weep, even now. Perhaps Reputations should have interviewed a few lions, instead of all the people who didn't like her. Elspeth Huxley, one of Joy's few fans, said Born Free was a love story; as such it was certainly touching, Incidentally, Huxley caption included the words "God-parent to Elsa", an unexplained but rather wonderful distinction.

posiman doesn't like EastEnders (BBCI): he says it's like "walking into a trap", and I find myself powerless to counter an aversion as heartfelt (and vivid) as that, For those of us already struggling with our head in a clamp, however, last REVIEW



night was a joyous occasion for two reasons. First, Kath (Gillian Taylforth) finally had her baby, in a swift labour in her own home. And second, Pat (Pam St Clements) resorted to bitchiness, a subtle form of verbal attack much too rarely employed in Albert Square. where wounds are generally frontal and gory. For example, Tiffany might put her minxy face right up against Sam's little nose and say,

You ain't got no friends, ave va?". thus earning the familiar reproach from Grant that she is right out of Anyway, the circumstances were

these. Peggy (Barbara Windsor) was boasting about her imminent birthday party at the Vic. and trying Par's patience, and then it happened. "You'd better go home and put your face on then," said Pat. Ooocooh. (Peggy had her face on already!) "She don't look a day over 60," Pat commented drily after Peggy had stomped off on her little leopardskin legs. Which was a big joke, you see, because she's

supposed to be 54.
Of course Peggy's party got riotous at the Vic at precisely the time when Kath was in bed across the square, howling in labour, yelling for Phil. You may remember how, before Christmas, Arthur's painful interrogation scenes were similarly intercut with contrasting, ironic, ho-ho, clink-clink

merriment elsewhere. baby's got some hair!" said Kath's midwife excitedly, but it was too obviously a set-up. She only had this line so that the viewers across the land could chorus, "Not like his dad, then" and feel elever for

المكذاب الاصل

Thannel 4's Undercover Britain concerned British building workers ripped off in Germany. It was Auf Wiedersehen. Pet without the jokes; it was Ken Loach's Riff Raff with racism on top; and, like last week's astonishing film about illegal guns for sale, fully vindicated the use of hidden cameras to get a story no journalist could get in the conventional way. Ostensibly undertaking a less dangerous mission than confronting crack-head gun-runners in a car in Moss Side, this week's heroes (headed by Neil Davis) took their cameras on the windy roof of a site in East Berlin.

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV WEST except:

2.50pm-3.20 The

11.40 Hunter (193629)

As HTV West except:

As HTV West except:

(943358)

(4722033)

As HTV West except:

10.40 Friday Live (980342)

12.25-12.30 My Story (2093006)

2.25 High Road (30714716)

12.55 Coronation Street (7847445)

1.25-1.55 Chain Letters (48608808)

1.55 Home and Away (42131071)

2.55-3.20 Gardeners' Diary (3266483)

5.10-5.40 Home and Away (9681735)

10.45 FILM: Stephen King's the Car (34118483)

CENTRAL

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (34990)

10.30 Westcountry News (338613)

12.55 Home and Away (7847445)

1.25 Chain Letters (48608808)

1.55 A Country Practice (94637464)

10.40 Central Weekend (98988342)

12.40am Hotel Babylon (8048033)

2.20 The Chart Show (4940507)

3.15 Dear Nick (9457217)

5.20 Asian Eye (8830101)

5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (9681735)

6.25-7.00 Central News and weather

1.20 The Good Sex Guide ... Late

4.10 Jobfinder. Focus on a musician in training and at work (4804101)

MERIDIAN

5.37-5.40 Three Minutes - Your Story

10.30 Meridian News and weather (338613)

12.55om-1.25 Chain Letters (7847445)

1.55 A Country Practice (94637464)

6.00-7.00 Meridian Tonight (34990)

10.00 News at Ten (85759)

10.45 Only a Game (939532)

11.15 Good Advice (169025)

5.00am Freescreen (13101)

11.35 War of the Worlds (837551)

S4C

1.25 Home and Away (48608808)

5.10 Home and Away (9681735)

Programme (4319261)

6.25-7.00 Wales Tonight (943358)

lying. The roof was slippery: there was no scuffolding or safety barrier. It was anainable only by means of a ladder which was not secured, and not quite long enough either. The real scandal, however, was

that the men working these dangerous and illegal sites are often not paid afterwards, and can't do anything about their treatment except complain and move on. There are no contracts, and the deals are made on mobile phones by Dutch "subbies" (sub-contractors) whose consistent Dutchness was unquestioned, oddly. Why are all subbies Dutch? It was a mystery. But then all the roofers are Brits and Irish, and all the slave labour are Turks and Bosnians. You might say there was a hierarchical ladder here, arranged on racial principles. A ladder that unfortunately doesn't reach high enough and isn't attached to anything in the first place.

A PART DESIGNATION 6.00am Business Breakfast (19254) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (23735)

9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceelax) 9.20 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (s) (2138483) 9.45 Kilroy (s) (8952938)

10.30 Good Morning (S) (13071) 12.00 News (Ceetax), regional news and weather (2089803)

12.05pm Turnabout (s) (5402445) 12.30 Going for a Song (s) (31803) 1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceetax) and weather (26822)

1.30 Regional News and weather (57419975) 1.40 Neighbours (Ceelax) (s) (94623261) 2.00 Pebble Mill (s) (8318209)

2.40 Moon over Miami (Ceetax) (s) 3.30 Ants in Your Pants (s) (6999803) 3.50

Look Sharp! (s) (5698984) 4.05 The Littlest Pet Shop (7235782) 4.25 The All New Popeya Show (4545700) 4.35 The Mask (2795532) 5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (3471984) **5.10 Blue Peter** (Ceefax) (s) (1154532)

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (616700) 6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather 6.30 Regional news magazines (551)

7.00 Wipeout. Three contestants compete for the star prize of a holiday (Ceefax) (s) (5613) WALES: 7.00 Don't Look Back

7.30 Tomorrow's World: Megalab 96 (Ceefax) (s)

staff to enter a float in the local carnival With Paul Shane, Ruth Madoc and Jeffrey Holland (r) (Ceefax) (7261) 8.30 A Question of Sport. Will Carling and lan

8.00 Hi-De-Hi. Joe Maplin orders the camp

Botham are joined by Jack Russell, Gordon Sherry, Jeremy Guscott and Du'aine Ladejo. Bill Beaumont takes over the questionmaster's seat for two weeks. (Ceefax) (s) (6396) 9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceetax), regional

news and weather (7006)

9.30 FILM: Memoirs of an Invisible Man (1992) with Chevy Chase and Daryl Hannah A stock analyst is made invisible in a freak accident and becomes the quarry of ruthless CIA agents who want to employ his unusual gifts. Fleeing from his pursuers, he teams up with the woman of his dreams for an adventurous spy escapade. Directed by John Carpenter (s) (919445) N.L.: 9.30 P. K. Tonight 10.20 FILM Memoirs of an Invisible Mar 11.55 FILM. The Sting 2.00am Weather WALES: 9.30 I've Been Eddie Mostyr (82613) 10.30 FILM: Memoirs of an Invisible Man (41939280) 12.05 FILM: The Sting (74614304) 2.10 News Headlines: Weather (6137323)

11.05 FILM: The Sting (1973) with Robert Redford and Paul Newman Multi-Oscar winning comedy-drama set in Chicago in 1936 about two con-men hatching a plan to gain revenge for the death of a friend at the hands of a petty racketeer. Directed by George Roy Hill (Ceelax) (59390990) 1.10am Weather (8452439)

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CHOICE

6.00am Open University: Biology Form and Function (9560464) 6.25 Christopher Plantin, Polyglot Printer of Antwerp (9476071) 6.50 Art in 15th-Century Italy

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (1666919) 7.30 Stingray (r) (Ceslax) (31700) 8.00 The Really Wild Show (r) (Ceslax) (s) (5372464) 8.25 The Little Polar Bear (r) (1527613) 8.30 Teddy Trucks (r) (9604700) 8.40 The Record (s)

9.05 Daytime on Two: Job Bank (1658483) 9.15 Teaching Today (860803) 9.45 Watch (9055629) 10.00 Playdays (85087) 10.30 Cats' Eyes (3285532) 10.45 Numbers Plus (3280087) 11.00 Look and Read (6988025) 11.20 Short Circuit (6771629) 11.40 Belief File (4369377) 12.00 English File (35254) 12.30pm Working Lunch (39445)



Lennie James as Ramon (1.00pm)

2.00 The Little Polar Bear (r) (44918716) 2.05 Teddy Trucks (r) (44917087) 2.10 Open View (s) (44932396)

(Ceefax) and weather (4963174)

(6919)

7.15 Electric Circus (s) (359464)

an estuary in winter (s) (5803)

9.30 Red Dwarf VI (r) (Ceefax) (59209) 10.00 Fist of Fun. Comedy show (s) (85713) 10.30 Newsnight (Caefax) (860629) 11.15 The Smell of Reeves and Mortimer (

12.15am The Life 1.05-2.55 FILM: Bliss 11.45 This Life. Drama series about five old college friends who live together (r) (Ceelax) (s) (622716) 12.35 FILM: Bliss (1985) with Barry Otto. Lynette Curran and Helen Jones Atter a

1.00 Scene: The People are the Forest (24464) 1.30 Showcase (65514349) 1.45 Words and Pictures (74069254)

4.00 Today's the Day (s)(464) 4.30 Ready Steady, Cook (s) (648) 5.00 Esther (s)

Championships (s) (700) 6.00 The Munsters (b/w) (Ceelax) (798919) 6.25 The Champions(Ceelax) (157464)

7.30 Secret Nature. Andrew Coope. discovers the surprising aftermath of oil spills and shipwrecks (r) (Ceefax) (s) (377) N.L. 7.30-8.00 Hearts and Minds 8.00 Being There Between the Tides. Wildlife cameraman lan McCarthey captures the atmosphere and wildlife of

8.30 Gardeners' World (Ceelax) (s) (4938)

9.00 The Fast Show (5648)

(Ceelax) (s) (949919) WALES: 11.15 Lobby 11.45 Reeves and Mortimer

heart attack, an advertising executive takes steps to dramatically change his

life. Directed by Ray Lawrence (657304).

BBC2, 1.00pm

Scene: The People Are the Forest

The actor Douglas Hodge makes his debut as writer and director with a drama about the destruction of the Amazon rainforest. The project is aimed at schools but, as so often with the Scene series, contains matter for maturer minds as well. Hodge's screenplay, which he wrote with Peter Searles, is more than a standard tale of exploiters and exploited. The logging company which has been felling the trees is the clear villain. The native people who live in the forest are the main victims. But the drama's concern is with the people in between, shanty town dwellers trying to scratch a living out of miserable soil. Their dilemma is represented by Don Miguel (Peter Kelly). He has to balance his debt to Ramon (Lennie James), the native Indian who saved his daughter's life, with the chance of work with the logging company.

Tomorrow's World — Megalab 96

An American research team recently offered a welcome diversion from the grimmer news of the day by suggesting that listening to classical music before taking an IQ test can improve the score. Some experts were quick to pour scorn on the so-called Mozart effect but Dr Sue Hallam, a psychologist from London University, took it seriously enough to suppose that Tamorrow's World should to suggest that Tomorrow's World should conduct its own experiment. Thousands of schoolchildren are taking part, all sitting the same IQ test. They will be split into three groups. One will have listened to classical nusic on Radio 3, the second to pop music on Radio I and the third to a discussion on Radio 5. The settling of the Bach versus Blur debate is one of several mass participation projects staged by Tomorrow's World to mark National Science Week. Gardeners' World

BBC2, 8,30om

You can rely on the pig-tailed Bob When it is not old pieces of carpet it is equally unattractive car tyres. He will no doubt retort that the materials cost little or nothing and the ends justify the means. He uses tyres and the ends justify the means, rie uses gyres to grow potatoes and, as usual, he knows what he is doing. The idea is to avoid the traditional, back-straining, process of digging and earthing up. He fills the tyre with compost and puts the potato seed in the middle. As the plant grows, he adds more tyres and more compost. As they say of England's rugby style, it is not pretty but it is pretty effective. In tonight's other items, a seedsman tells all about FI hybrids and the cameras visit a Japanese garden in the Black Country, created by a man forced to take gardening more easily after a stroke.

The Ruth Rendell Mysteries: A Case of TTV. 9.00pm

We are in the 1950s for the latest Rendell tale, which enables the detectives (played by Keith Barron and Ronald Pickup) to wear trilly hats and long raincoats. The significance of the period is otherwise unclear, but trust Rendell to make it so before this two-parter concludes next week. Barron and Pickup are investigating the murders, within a few months of each other, of four young women in the Cambridgeshire Iens. When a fifth woman neets her death in the same way, the assumption is that the same killer has struck again. Needless to say it is more complicated again. Needless to say it is more compinated than that, particularly when the narrative goes into flashback. But the director, Gavin Millar, manages to keep several balls in the air at the same time while getting the most from the landscape.

Peter Waymark

6.00am GMTV (4987144)

9.25 Win, Lose or Draw (s) (2113174) 9.55 Regional News (Telejexi) (4394700) 10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (8506613) 10.35 This Morning (98638087) 12.20pm Regional News (2085087)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (7862754)

12.55 Murder, She Wrote (s) (2920716) 2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (30711629) 2.25 Chain Letters (Teletext) (s) (30723464)

2.50 The Good Health Guide (Teletext) (4319261) 3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (7812769) 3.25 Regional News (5194880)

3.30 Rosie and Jim (5776716) 3.45 Zzzapi (5691071) 4.00 Talespin (4977377) 4.25 The Geeks (4970464) 4.55 Hang On 5.10 A Country Practice (9681735)

5,40 ITN News (Teletext) (238551)

6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s) (785445)6.25 Regional News (Teletext) (888006) 6.45 Sportsweek (Teletext) (751648)

7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right. Bruce deals the cards to the couples hoping to win new cars or cash prizes. With Sophie Allisstone and Vicki Brattle. (Teletext) (s) (3209)

7.30 Coronation Street. Butcher's boy Ashley makes a few young women's hearts flutter (Teletext) (803)

8.00 The Bill: Blood Brothers. When an argument between two Asian brothers results in murder, Meadows tries to get the truth from the men's dying father. (Teletext) (9629)

8.30 The Upper Hand. Role-reversal comedy starring Joe McGann and Diana Weston (r) (Teletaxt) (s) (1464)



Ronald Pickup, Kelth Barron (9.00pm

9,00 The Ruth Rec Mysteries: A Case Coincidence (Teletext) (s) (5795) 10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) (85759)

10.40 Entertaining Mr Wedlock. Fred Wedlock talks to child entertainers and finds out what motivates them (702700) 1.10 FILM: The Pit and the Pendulur (1961). Vincent Price in an adaptation of the short story by Edgar Alian Poe.

12.35am Hotel Babylon (s) (804) 120) 1.15 The Good Sex Guide...Late (s) (250656) 2.15 The Jacksons: An American Dream (r) (s) (19160304)

4,40 Music Box Profile (42042762) 5.00 On the Live Side, Fusion maestros Mainieri and Billy Cobham (13101)

5.30 ITN News (98946). Ends at 6.00

10.30 Regional News (410261)

Directed by Roger Corman (593880)

Starts: 6.35 The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (6761532) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (16445) 9.00 Fifteen to One (16006) 9.30 Ysgolion 12.00 Sesame Street (43648) 1.00pm Slot Meithrin (19532) 1.30 Blue Wilderness (50984) 2.00 Bush Tucker Man 2,25 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster (73880716) 4,30 Waterways (716) 5.00

Pepette (1522648) 5.15 Annwyl Gamera (3556629) 5.30 Countdown (396) 6.00 Newyddion (141087) 6.15 Heno (685822) 7.00 Pobol Y Cwm (755993) 7.25 4D (254396) 8.00 Dei a Tom (7071) 8.30 News (9006) 9.00 Hidden Kingdoms (3087) 10.00 Brookside (24071) 10.30 Mark Thomas Comedy (148919) 11.05 The Girlle Show (940464) 11.55 TFI Friday (830648) 12.55am Beavis and Butt-Head (1155323) 1.25am Jubilee

6.35am The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (r) (s)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (16445)

9.00 Fifteen to One (r) (Teletext) (s) (16006) 9.30 Schools: The Mix (9972342) 9.45 Stop Look Listen (9073025) 10.00 Fourways Farm (7787342) 10.10 Eurokids (8255223) 10.25 Technology Programme (4956416) 10.40 Off Limits (9907464) 11.05 The Mix (6787280) 11.20 Stage One (6775445) 11.35 Schools at Work (4351716) 11.40 How We Used to Live (4354445) 12.00 Fruity Stories (23342)

12.30pm Sesame Street (48396) 1.30 Camberwick Green followed by The Herbs (r) (50984)

2.00 That Goes Double (1937) (30639071) 2.25 Channel 4 Racing from Doncaster Derek Thompson introduces the 2.35 Cystic Fibrosis Maiden Stakes 3.05 Cystic Fibrosis Research Cup H'Cap H'Cap 4.10 Holroyd Construction Group

H'Cap Stakes (s) (73880716) 4.30 Countdown (Teletext) (s) (716) 5.00 Cutting Edge: The Mystery of the Pescado (Teletexi) (s) (3822)

6.00 T.F.I. Friday (aka Thank Four It's Friday) (s) (32532) 7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (998613) 7.55 Book Choice William Boyd reviews Peter Godwin's Mukiwa (Teletext) (s)

8.00 Fruity Stories. Can nuts and exotic fruits be grown here? (Teletext) (s) (7071) 8.30 Brookside. (Teletext) (s) (9006)

9.00 Cybili: The Big Sleepover. Glossy but sometimes astringently accurate American comedy with Cybill Shepherd



Father Ted and friends (9.30pm)

9.30 Father Ted: Tentacles of Doom. Surreal comedy about three Irish priests on an offshore island (Teletext) (s)

10.00 Roseanne: The Thrille near the Vanilla Extract. Jackie and Roseanne get jobs in a supermarket handing out food samples (Teletext) (s) (24071) 10.30 The Mark Thomas Comedy Product. A

mixture of stand-up comedy and satirical stunts (s) (148919) 11.05 The Girlie Show (5) (940464)

11.55 TFI Friday (r) (s) (830648)

12.55am Beavis and Butt-Head, Animated music video reviews (s) (1155323) 1.25 FiLM: Jubilee (1978). Derek Jarman's punk rock anti-celebration of the Queen's Jubilee uses the ingenious device of transporting Queen Elizabeth I to the 20th century where she is appalled by modern urban life, Starring Toyah Wilcox, lan Charleson and Richard O'Brien (669323).

• For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday .00am Boiled Egg and Soldiers (44261)

2.00 Press Your Luck (5975938) 8.50 Love Connection (4010025) 9.20 Count TV (6283087) 9.50 The Opreh Winter Show (173036) 10.40 Jaopardy (6087006) 11.10 Sally Jessy Raphael (2622377) 12.00 Beechy (96754) 1.00pm Hotel (72174) 2.00 Gerado (33648) 3.00 Com TV (2358) 3.30 Gerédo (33548) 3.00 Coun 19 (2359) 3.30 The Oprah Winter Stow (571084) 4.15 Undum (1765377) 5.00 Ster Trek. The Neri Generation (6938) 6.00 The Simpsons' More animated from with Barri and the family (5251) 6.30 Jeopardyl (4613) 7.00 LAPO (7667) 7.30 M*A*S*H (6025) 8.00 Just Nudding (3087) 8.30 Coppers (5822) 9.00 Walker, Texas Ranger (22193) 10.00 Star Tres. The New Generation (75280) 11.00 Trek. The New Generation (29299) 11.00 Metrose Place (58445) 12.00 Late Show with David Letterman (5341025) 12.45sm. The Unicuchables (4362168) 1.30 David Deanest (67897) 2.00 Hit Mix Long Play (4862168)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour 6.00am Sunnise (8649358) 9.30 Century (55.0091 10.50 ABC Nightime (63938) 11.00 World News and Business (50.0342) 1.30pm CBS News (22483) 2.30 Parliament (10377) 3.30 The Lords (5919) (86025) 6.30 Tonight with Adam Boulton (28396) 7.30 Sportsiane (16735) 8.30 Entertainment (3464) 11.30 CBS News (83025) 12.30am ABC World News Tonight (90859) 1.301 Toxight with Adam Boulton (90859) 1.30 Tonight with Adam Boutton (99014) 2.30 Worlawde Report (41439) 3.30 The Lards (13656) 4.30 CBS News (28491) 5.30 ABC World(000071(25014)

SKY MOVIES 6.00am Gloi (1958) (30532) 8.00 Marlows (1904) (1938) (30.20 and market (1900) (24470) (10.00 Guest for Justice (1933) (86735) 12.00 Vital Signa (1990) (3055) (2.00pm Fatso (1980) (18525) 4.00 The Little Shephard of Kingdom Come (1961) (3342) 6.00 Guest for Justice (1993) (35395) 8.00 Little Bud-dha (1993) (35513) (10.00 Natural Causes (1994) (75513) (10.00 Natural Causes (1994) (75513) (10.00 Natural Causes the (1993) (36.50) 5.00 Lime Bud-dha (1993) (35613) 10.00 Natural Causes (1994) (175209) 11.35 Shootilghter (1993) (524821) 1.15am Late Corsa-quence (1993) (858014) 2.45 Wheels of Terror (1997) (190859) 4.30 Fatso (1980) SKY MOVIES GOLD

A.00emt A Dary's Pleasure (1919) (8860) 4.30 Son of Kong (1933) (46483) 6.00 The Three Faces of Eve (1957) (49622984) 7.35 Raid on Entable (1976) (31891209) (0.00 Conen the Berbarien (1962) (82357006) 12.15pm The Best (1962) (82357006) 12.15pm The Best (1968) 2.10-3.50 The Seventh Soal THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Captain January (1936) (38174) 8.00 The Courage of Ris Tin Tin (1982) (42342) 10.00 Young People (1940) (86377) 12.00 The Big Geme (1985) (38193) 2.00pm Baby, Take a Bow (1934) (11774) 4.00 The Courage of Rin Tin Tin (1982) (6884) 6.00 On the Buses (1971) (1962) (6984) 6.00 On the Buses (1971) (92735) 7.30 UK Top Ten () (9735) 8.00 Staggered (1994) (39483) 10.00 Rising Sun (1993) (20492358) 12.10am A Business Affair (1993) (575236) 1.55 Terror In the Night (1993) (618385) 3.30 L'enfer (1994) (572762) 5.10 Puss in Books (1983) (3338304)

to 4am. 6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (70155377) 6.30 Fraggle Rock (60110551) 7.00 Winnia the Pooth (53734280) 7.30 Duchtales (53720087) 8.00 Chip Rescue Rangers (91672919) 8.30 The Adventuces in Wonderland (91664990) 9.00 Derney (70174025) 10.00 Under the Unt-brella Tree (60101803) 10.30 Fraggle Rock (91694754) 11.00 Muppet Babes (54894087) 11.30 Pooh Corner (54895716) 12.00 Cuack Atlack (91675006) 12.30pm Dumbo's Circus (24444990) 1.00 Wonder land (53733551) 1.30 FiLM: Windrumo land (53733561) 1,30 FLM Windrumor (11073629) 3,30 Winne ine Pooh (18890657) 4,00 Quack Atrack (8881574) 4,30 Duckales (88815358) 5,00 Cyberstar (61212532) 6,30 Sick with Me, Kut (63027613) 7,30 Hollywood Lives (88816087) 8,00 FILM: White Wolves II — Legend of the Wild (53260071) 9,30-10,00 Making of Tey Story (24464754)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Dencing (95754) 8.30 Figure Skeima (998087) 11.00 Footbell (92735) 1.00 Snowboarding (11938) 1.30pm Boskeiball (92025) 2.30 Figure Skeima (98327377) 4.55 News (1059483) 5.00

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold takes over from 10pm

the state of the s

Aerobus (4439629) 5.55 News (699174) 5.00 Live Terris (69822) 8.00 Figure Skating (20457006) 10.20 News (641483) 10.30 Aerobus (98193) 11.30-12.30em

Booty Building (33667) SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centre (14071) 7.30 Racing News (20826) 8.06 Wriestling (18261) 9.00 Aerobics (25613) 9.30 Tight Lines (93483) 10.30 Rajoby Cubi (98984) 11.30 Gilletie World Sport Spocial (48613) 12.00 Aerobics Oz Style (18377) 12.30pm Ringside Bodrig (40716) 2.30 Pool (817071) 5.00 World Wrestling Federation Raw (2754) 6.00 Sports Centre (53938) 7.00 Schoolboy Football — Live Northern Ireland V Scotland Football — Live. Northern kelend v Scalland (50039990) 8.55 Sports Centro (263174) 9.00 Super Loague Preview (31377) 10.30 Sports Centre (94975) 11.30 Schoolboy Sport (35071) 12.30am Trans World Sport (60743) 1.30-3.00 Super League Preview (38304)

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00pm Trens World Sport (3295994) 8.00 Triught Help Held Spot (252-54) aug Ford Scorpus US PGA Golf - Uve (3368648) 10.00 Stoff Salling (2360919) 10.30 ice Wentors (2966209) 12.00 hisida the PGA Senior Tour (5766033) 12.301.00em Skiff Seiling (5145781)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL 4 Admen Living World 5.89 Kennelly Cope land 5.30 kidz TV 5.45 General Christian Entertainment 6.16 Colin Dye/Wake Up Europe 8.45-7.00 Music SKY SOAP

7.00pm Gudung Ught (5910532) 7.56 As the World Turns (6816464) 8.50 Peyton Place (6093613) 9.20 Days of Our Lives (7228532) 10.10-11.00 Another World (6961025) SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Globelmiter (4255006) 11.30 American Vacation (4604990) 12.30pm American vacanon (460/1990) 12.30pcs Bruse Eals America (97/1206) 1.00 Get-away (185/087) 1.30 Great Escapes (97/1377) 2.00 E Report (4249445) 2.30 Crusang the Globe (5195880) 3.00 Globe-Honer (4251280) 3.30 Around the World in 30 Minutes (7919342) 3.55-4.00 Holiday Shop (46834290) THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4,00 Weepons at War (4247358) 5,00 Mysteries of the Bible (4242532) 6,00-7,00

Biography: Martin Luther King (9720025) THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

1.00mm Swamp Thing (3134385) 1.50 Ray Bradbury Treatre (3061304) 2.00 FILM An American Westwolf in London (4800975) 3.40-4.00 Sci-Fi Buzz (32168014) 8.00mm The Joy of Parnting (7146629) 8.30 Gardenors' Deny (2593071) 10.00 Two's Country (3799193) 10.30 Cur House (7062613) 11.00 Room Senece (2792328) 11.30 Rumming Repairs (2793087) 12.00 Julia Child (7159193) 12.30pm The Frugal Gournet (2676087) 1.00 Yen Can Cook (9208218) 1.30 Furmium to Go (287538) 2.00 Dece with Durber (1456809) 2.30

2.00 Dogs with Dunber (4595803) 2.30 Stars and Genders (6897754) 3.00 Two's Country (4504939) 3.30-4.00 This Old House (6795071) UK GOLD 7.00am Angels (6058795) 7.30 Neighbours (750889) 8.00 Sors and Paupriers (750889) 8.00 Sors and Paupriers (7158464) 8.30 EastEnders (7157735) 9.00 The Ball (7148087) 9.30 The Sullivans (274625) 10.00 Bargerse (1103844) 11.00 Bullseye (2794716) 11.30 Odd One Out

Miles, Howard and Mitchum in Ryan's Daughter (TNT, 9.00pm)

(2795445) 12.00 Sons and Daughters (7151551) 12.30pm Neighbours (2678445) 1.00 EastEnders (7408236) 1.30 Syles (1922338) 2.10 The Liver Blids (1623716) (1925/38) 2-10 the Liver bills (1627/16) 2,50 Tern and June (1755/42) 3.07 The Bill (6878529) 4.00 Casualty (16891754) 5.05 Every Second Counts (7147919) 5.45 *Abo Abo (1320071) 6.25 EastEnders (6254954 7.00 Too of the Pops (9867342) 8.00 Bollseye (4507025) 8.00 To the Manor Born 4589529 8.00 Livton's There (986754) Bollseye (4507025) 8.30 To the Manor Born (4586532) 8.00 Lytion's Diary (9969754) 10.00 The Bill (1486648) 10.35 (Y7) (5352174) 11.15 FILM A Cry in the Dark (50036025) 1.25am Carrolt Confidential (5239976) 2.05-3.00 Shopping

8.00am Amazing Uve Sea Monkeys (72342) 6.30 Pugwalf's Summer (63174) 7.00 Ready or Not (95261) 7.30 Caldoma Oreams (14396) 8.00 Sweet Valley High (60754) 8.30 Degrassi Jumor High (60755) 9.00 Eek the Cat (50077) 9.30 Garifeld and 9,00 Eek the Cat 150377) 9,30 Garlietd and Friends (96657) 10,00 Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (87754) 10,30 Where's Wally? (49261) 11,00 Cocar's Orchestra (81342) 11,30 Danobobies (82071) 12,00 Barney and Friends (67613) 12,30pm Thy TCC (87358) 1,30 Sesame Street (88067) 2,30 Jim Henson & Animal Show (9174) 3.00 Oscar's Orchestra (2532) NICKELODEON

8.00mm Henry's Cat (4485629) 8.15 Blue (975209) 8.45 Toucan Fax (8754649) 7.00 Battini, (9480349) 7.05 Gmmmy 14794716; 7.45 Rugrats and Doug (963464) 8.15 Assault Real Monsters (4055342) 8.35 Rociato's Modern Life (9713) 9.00 Alvin and the Chipmunius (29483) 9.30 Pee-Wee Placetons (70245) 3.00 Reproduction (70245) 3.00 Reproduct (32445) 10.00 Banana Sandwic 35321 11.00 Children's BBC (13396) BBC (79464) 3,00 Whit Side Show (6716) 3,30 Mg/my Max (8603) 4,00 Fish and Crups and Jo Raz (7928) 4,30 Rugrats/Doug (6822) 5,00 Sister Sister (1261) 5,30 Odyssey It (7174) 8,00 Ren & Startor (4087) 6,30 Are You Abad of the Derk? (8667)

DISCOVERY 4.00pm Time Travellers (6882006) 4.30 Charle Bravo (6877990) 5.00 Treasure Charle Braro (5877990) 5.00 Treasure Hurters (4509483) 5.30 Terra X (6795342) 6.00 Voyager (6886483) 6.30 Beyond 2000 (5566764) 7.30 Arthur C Clarko's Mysten-cus Universo (6886919) 8.00 Jurassas -(9867582) 9.00 Wings (5887396) 10.00 Classic Wheels (6960483) 11.00 Ship-week) (2717567) 11.30-12.00 Ship-week) (27975767) BRAVO

72.00 FILM: The Blood of Fu Manchu (3705493) 2.00pm Sant (3794548) 3.00 Danger Men (2791629) 4.00 FILM Castle of Fu Manchu (4595280) 8.00 Danger Men (689220) 6.30 The Gossp Show (3619498) 7.30 Sapphre and Steel (6872445) 8.00 The Sant (9961358) 9.00 UFO (9974822) 10.00-12.00 FRLM Stryker

PARAMOUNT 7.00pm Berson (1025) 7.30 Family Tes (7551) 8.00 Entensimment (1445) 8.30 Wings (9280) 9.00 Soap (21990) 9.30 Leverre & Startey (56025) 10.00 Entersament (17646) 10.30 Home Court (26395) 11.00 Pursua of Happmass (33735) 11.30 8cb (74919) 12.00 American Dreamer (79559) 12.30am The Odd Couple (56410) 1,00 Wings (81148) 1.30 Soap (21255) UK LIVING

2.00 Laverne & Sharley (25168) 2.30 Emertamment (93025) 3.00 Home Court

(61385) 2.30-4.00 Pursuit of Happine

8,00am Agony Hour (937)735) 7,90 Várty (1873)93) 8,00 Esther (926)667) 8,30 Gardeners' World (826)39) 9,00 Mesterchief 92 (972)174) 9,55 km 8 Alie (579)649) 10,05 Jamy Springer (624649) 11,00 Young and Revilless (9908377) 11,36 Food and Druft (6784434) 12,30pm Darsous Women (7678434) 12,30pm Darsous Women (7678434) 12,50pm Darsous Women (7678434) 12,50pm Darsous Visioner (76784344) 12,50pm Darsous Visioner (767843444) 12,50pm Darsous Visioner (76784344444) 12,50pm Da gerous Women (7679938) 1.25 Crosswits (7078919) 2.00 Agony Hour (5398174) 3,00 Live at Tiree (4722919) 4.00 infatuation Lik Lingo (93138174) 5,30 Lucky (4115648) 6,00 Bewighed (41052 On the Bed with Faula (6747551) 7.06. Refuciant Cook (9225803) 7.40 John's Wild (4284193) 8.05 Young and Restless (1438629) 8.00 Film. A Cry in the Night (61054483) 10.50 Entertainment Now! (1467396) 11.00-12.00 Erogenous Zone

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.06pm Escape from Jupier (4377) 8.30 Night Hood (978667) 5.65 Batman (511648) 6.30 Catchphrase (4483) 7.00 Timal Pursus (1613) 7.30 Jake and the Kid (78957) 8.30 Crity When I Laugh (2395) 9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mysteries Murder Being Once Done (67357) 10.00 Treasure Hurl (1784) 11.00 Suens (11209) 12.00 Jake and the Kid (15385) 1,00mm Belman (10675) 1.30 GP (14743) 2.00 The Black Salhon (18966) 2.30 Ahran Sues (4491) 3.00 GP (30439) 3.30 The Black Station (31743) 4.00 Alman Slues (5226) 4.30-5.00 Escape from Jupiter (31168)

7.30em The Puise (16754) 8,00 Morning 7.30em The Puse (16754) 8.00 Moming Ma (19138) 11.00 Dance Floor Charl (92174) 12.00 Greatest Hits (88648) 1.00pm Muses Non-Stop (77377) 3.00 Video Juke Box (68445) 4.00 Hanging Out (5006) 6.00 Dat MTV (2261) 6.30 MTV News (2223) 7.00 Dance Floor Charl (67321) 8.00 Evaning Ma (43342) 8.30 Amour (30241) 10.30 Singled Out (59648) 11.00 Party Zone (69006) 1.00am Victors (6225636)

VH-1 7,00em Power Bicaktast (1850358) 9.00

(9719919) 2.00 Ten of the Best: Paula Hamilton (8713735) 3.00 into the Music (7342377) 6.00 Happy Hour (9722483) 7.00 VH-1 for You (3297342) 8.00 Beetchub '80s (4251667) 8.39 Planer Hout Problem Well Well Well (240174) 9.00 Ten of the Best: Jonathan Coleman (3399754) 10.00 The Vinyl Years (3296613) 11.00 Around and Around (1868822) 12.00 The Nightly Rocks (8573236) 2.00am Dewn Patrol CMT EUROPE

Country music from 6am to 7pm on satellite, 24-hours on cable including 5.00pm Saturday Nie Dance Ranch 6.00-ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran (52535358) 7.30 Zee Presents (16796342) 9.00 Shri Knshna (84112551) 9.30 Face to Faca (33831984) 10,00 Banegi April Beat (38721254) 10,30 Urdu Sanai: Ashat (27791483) 11,30 Temil Fil.M: Andha Oru Nimidam (95981483) 2.30 Bunyaad (70385823) 3.00 Hindi Senal: erat Ek Khoi (56932006) 4.00 Video Bharat Ek Khoj (56902005) 4.00 Video Junction (70376174) 4.30 Khel Time (7037236) 5.00 Zee Zone (11415209) 5.30 h's My Show (70396938) 6.00 Zebaan Sambhal Ka (70386551) 6.30 Zee & U (703778031 7.00 8800 (1495445) 7.30 Namasie India (70373087) 8.00 Nowe (1404193) 8.30 Artiakshar (11310700) 9.00.130 Mariakshar (11310700)

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RIVALS LEFT TO FRET AS SWEDE, MAKES HIS MOVE

FRIDAY MARCH 22 1996

Graveney accepts nomination

Illingworth's position under threat

a permanent team administra-

tor, team manager and chief

coach, and other coaches as

well, each with specific duties.

For these positions, Grave-ney has in mind men of a

similar vintage to himself,

with Ian Botham high on his

list of candidates. "I can see an

important role for him in the

dressing-room and in a gener-

al coaching and motivational

capacity," he said yesterday. "He inspires and he gets on

Graveney: proposals

well with the players." The

position of team administrator

would be a natural one for John Barclay, who was an

able assistant to Illingworth

during the World Cup and in

South Africa. Several counties

are understood to have want-

ed Barclay to stand for th

chairmanship, but he declined

to do so. Perhaps Graveney's

plans will attract such coun-

are David Lloyd, the Lanca-

shire coach, and Mike Gatting, the Middlesex cap-

tain, who has long been ear-

coaching role. Graveney made

Others who could benefit

ties to his camp.

RAYMOND Illingworth said that if his position as chair-man of the England cricket selectors was to be challenged. he would fight his corner hard. He had better get into training fast. David Graveney, a fellow selector and nominated by Warwickshire, had no sooner been confirmed yesterday as his opponent than he was unveiling a power-packed manifesto perfectly capable of delivering a knockout blow.

The men could hardly be more different. Illingworth is 63 and autocratic, a style that won him many honours at county and international level on the field, but which has served him less well off it. Graveney is 43 and a demo-crat, as his work as general secretary of the Cricketers' Association testifies. He never played for England, never won a championship in his 23 years with Somerset, Gloucestershire and Durham, and has made few enemies.

What they have in common is a passion about the game and an ability to think deeply about it. Arguably, though, Illingworth's thoughts are going out of fashion fast, which may explain why the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB), understandably shocked and angry at England's results and demeanour at the World Cup. earlier this month ordered an inquiry into all aspects of the national team's management.

If Graveney wins the postal ballot among the 20 members of the TCCB, the result of which will be known on Tuesday, its inquiry may be rendered unnecessary cause he has specific and wide-ranging proposals to create an environment in which England could thrive again.

Graveney was at pains to stress that, if he replaced from Graveney's appointment Illingworth, who has been chairman since 1994, he would not perform the same functions as his predecessor. He regards the chairman's role as marked for a national an overseeing one - "making

sure the right structure is it clear that he would like Michael Atherton to continue operating properly". as captain for some time to This structure would income, his burden eased by the volve a larger back-room staff, in line with those that Austra-lia and South Africa successexpanded administrative and fully employ. There would be

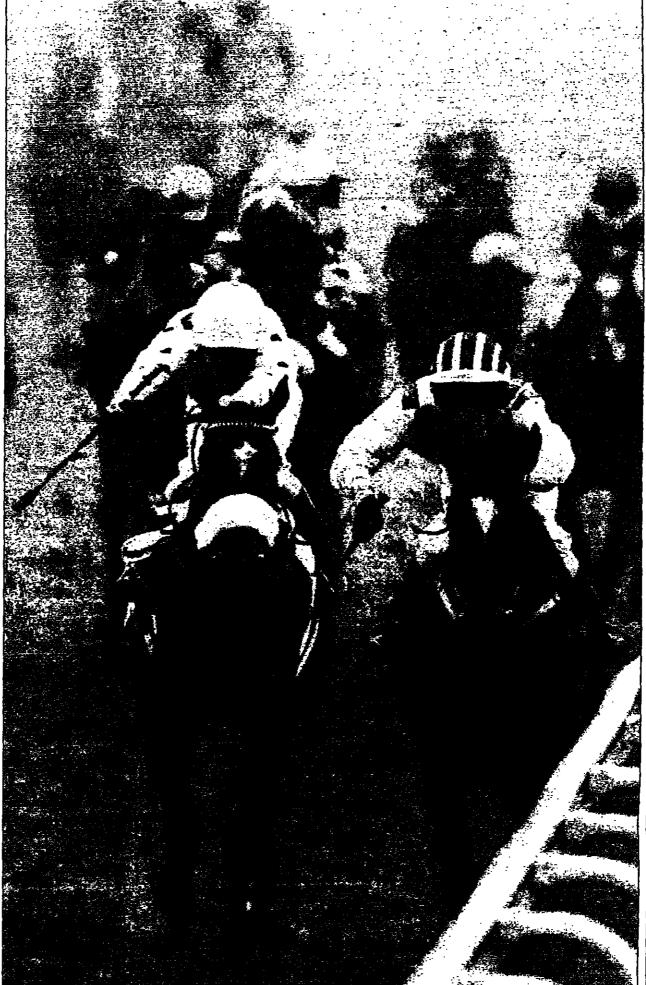
By comparison, Illing-worth's ideas, such as they are, look thin. The central one was that he should be invested with unprecedented powers. being England manager and well as chairman, but after a year that policy has been condemned as a failure.

It had been thought likely that he would forfeit the position of manager, but he may lose both — and on the same day. His future as England manager will be considered by the TCCB's executive committee on Tuesday afternoon, directly before the result of the voting for chairman is announced.

Like Graveney, Illingworth wants to surround himself with men of his own generation, but some of the selectors and coaches he has favoured have been accused, like him-self, of lacking empathy with the modern professional. Illingworth's unilateral decision-making — notably his last-minute switch of wicketkeepers before the Lord's Test match against West Indies last year - also lost him friends, and arguably deprived Eng-land of one of its leading benefactors, Patrick Whittingdale, who was upset at the equivocal support offered to

Illingworth's reputation has always rested on his results rather than his methods. His fear must be that the counties will now judge him on his ☐ Brian Lara may be summoned before the West Indies Cricket Board of Control's disciplinary committee after an altercation with Dennis Waight, the team trainer. Reports in Bridgetown yesterday suggested that Lara and Waight had been invovied in an acrimonious exchange as the team flew to London from

India after the World Cup.



Royston Ffrench, right, takes a short-lived lead in the 1996 jockeys' championship as he partners Haya Ya Kefaah to victory over Outstayed Welcome in the first race of the turf Flat season at Doncaster vesterday. Racing, page 41

England's train of thought is turned to youngsters

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

THREE of England's most promising young footballers have been invited to join the national squad during prepa-rations for the international match against Bulgaria at Wembley next Wednesday,

Terry Venables, the England coach, has extended a welcome to Lee Bowyer, the Charlton Athletic midfield player, Richard Wright, the lpswich Town goalkeeper, and Ian Moore, a striker with Tranmere Rovers. Though there is no possibility of them appearing against Bulgaria, they will play a full part in training at Bisham Abbey. For Bowyer, 19, it completes

a swift return to grace after testing positive for cannabis a year ago in a random drugs test carried out by the Football Association. "It's a brilliant opportunity for Lee." Alan Curbishley, the Charlton manager, said. "He's the type of lad who learns very quickly and it will be a great education for him. He won't be overawed."

Bowyer has missed only three games for Charlton this season, scoring 14 goals, and has played for the England Under-18 and Under-21 sides. Arsenal and Liverpool are among the FA Carling Premiership clubs to have closely

monitored his progress. Wright, 18, the England Under-18 goalkeeper, has replaced Craig Forrest in the pswich first team and has made 19 appearances this season. An Ipswich spokesman said: "He couldn't believe it when he heard the news but he's a very level-headed lad and I'm sure he'll do well." Moore, 18, is the son of the coach at Prenton Park, Ronn/ Moore, and has scored ten goals for Tranmere this

"It's a sort of getting-toknow-you exercise, which is great experience for them," man, said.

Rhode

puts Cla

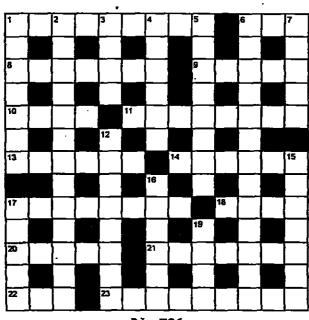
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ii.

☐ The Bulgaria coach, Dimitar Penev, has chosen a squad close to full strength for the match at Wembley. Only the injured defender, Tsanko Tsvetanov, is missing from a

party of 18.
SCHAD: B Mikhallov, D Popov, E Kremenliev, T Ivanov, P Hubchev, G Ginchev, I Kryskov, R Klastistev, Z Yenkov, D Bortmirov, I Youdenov, H Stockkov, Y Lechkov, K Balakov, L Penev, E Kostadinov, B Guentchev, N Sreskov.

TWO TIMES



No 736

ACROSS

1 End of digit; brief (sketch) 6 Weep convulsively (3) 8 Achieve revenge (3,4)

10 Ex-Yugoslav dictator (4) 3 11 Lower-wall wood panel (8) 13 A monkey; a blood factor (6) 14 Appear; expose, humiliate

9 Way (to an end); wealth (5)

17 Shaven yob (8) 18 Uninvitingly dull (4)

2 20 Planet; underworld god (5)

22 Sussex port: cereal (3)

23 Inlaid woodwork (9)

21 Barbary pirate (7)

I More drunk, fast (7) 2 Au courant (2-2-3-6) 3 Gaggle of girls (4)

4 Toughen (metal) by heat (6) 5 Of which Don Quixote was Man (2,6) 6 Police entry permit (6,7)

7 Surround, attack (5) 12 Proverbially fast-growing 15 Onset of adolescence (7)

16 Piece of crockery, may fly

17 Splendid; an extra (5) 19 German wife (4)

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Flitcroft poised to join Blackburn for £3.5m

By Peter Ball and David Maddock

GARRY FLITCROFT, Manchester City's England under-21 midfield player, is set to sign for Blackburn Rovers today. The Maine Road club accepted Blackburn's offer of E3.5 million and the player had a medical yesterday after agreeing personal terms.

Blackburn have admired Flitcroft, 23, for some time. Now, with the sale of David Batty to Newcastle United, they have replaced him with a strong competitor, but a more rounded - and much younger - footballer. They may consider they have got a bargain. City's decision to sell, how-

ever, will cause consternation among supporters in their attempt to avoid relegation from the FA Carling Premiership. Flitcroft was regarded as a key player in the hoped-for regeneration of the club. Significantly, City have not won any of their ten matches this season in which Flitcroft has not played. The offer from Blackburn

came out of the blue and was obviously very difficult to resist," Alan Ball, the City manager, said. "But the financial aspect wasn't the only consideration.

"There were footballing matters we had to take into account, like the development this season of Michael Brown. in fact, we have a glut of midfield players at Maine Road at the moment, and both I and my chairman [Francis Lee] felt that we could allow Garry to move without weakening our senior squad."

Ball will discuss with Lee the possibility of using some of the fee to sign new players, although he admitted it was a remote prospect. With Guiseppe Mazzarelli, the Switzerland Under-21 player, joining

City two weeks ago, and Mikhail Kavelashvila, the Georgia striker, waiting for a challenge to think about with work permit, City are becom-Blackburn." ing more cosmopolitan by the

month. Flitcroft expressed mixed feelings about the move yester-"It will be a massive wrench to leave Maine Road," Flitcroft said. "I have been here since I was 12 and I have never considered leaving for one moment. I didn't know anything about it until I was

Solace for Leeds

told on Wednesday night that City had accepted their offer. It was a major shock to discover that City were prepared to sell me, but I suppose you have to be realistic and accept that these things happen in football.

"Obviously, it was an offer City felt they could not afford to turn down, and at least I have got the consolation of knowing that I am joining a very ambitious club. In many



Flitcroft: challenge

ways, this is a very sad day for me, but I have got a new

His first challenge may be to et into the team, with Tim Sherwood established in cen-

tral midfield and Lars Bohinen recovering from injury. Blackburn now look as well equipped in that area as any of the leading teams, and Flitcroft arrives in time to help their pursuit of a Uefa Cup Flitcroft will receive a E500,000 signing-on fee,

loyalty bonus worth around £250,000 from his former club. John Burridge, the 44-yearold goalkeeper, yesterday agreed to add Bolton Wanderers to his collection of league clubs, bringing his total to 21. Burridge made his professional debut with Workington in the 1968-69 season. He has agreed a short-term contract to coach at Burnden Park, but Colin Todd, the Bolton man-

wages of £10,000 a week and a

arrival as a player.

Robert Chase's controversial ten-year reign as chair-man of Norwich City could reach a conclusion by the end of the week. At a shareholders' meeting yesterday. Chase said that he had accepted an offer from an unidentified consortium for his 34 per cent holding in the club. The deal is subject to an independent audit by the prospective

ager, will also register his new

purchasers. Chase has infuriated Norwich supporters in recent seasons by his policy of selling good players. Only last week, after he had announced that the club was £4.5 million in debt, Jon Newsome and Ashley Ward were sold for a combined fee of £2.6 million.

Yeboah to coach in Ghana on retirement

By PETER BALL

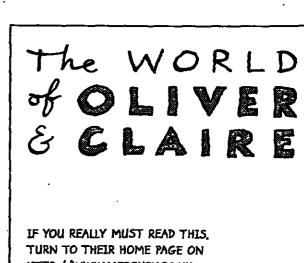
TONY YEBOAH, the Leeds United forward, announced yesterday that he will retire and return to Ghana when his three-year contract expires in the summer of 1998.

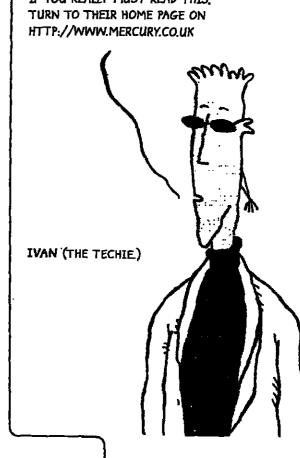
"I will be 32 by them, and I think that is time to stop playing football," Yeboah said yesterday as Leeds prepared for their Coca-Cola Cup Final against Aston Villa on Sunday. "I am going back to Okwaku United, my former club, to coach the six- to tenyear-olds. They need help to become good players. And I want my children to grow up

Yeboah, who cost Leeds E3.5 million when they signed him from Eintracht Frankfurt last year, has scored 32 goals in 54 starts for Leeds, a staggering rate in an inconsistent team, and one in which he has often been left to play on his own up front, rather than with a partner, as he

Before he leaves he will fulfil one ambition by playing at Wembley, and hopes to help Leeds to reach Europe and, next season, to challenge for the championship. know how important this game is, it is our last hope of qualifying for Europe.

"I am used to playing in Europe, and it will be very disappointing if we don't qualify. I would hope next season we will challenge for the league, but to do that we need one or two new players." ☐ Anders Limpar, the Swedish winger, is to stay with Everton, whose manager, Joe Royle, told him that he will not be one of the players to go in the end-of-season clear-out.





ALTERNATIVELY THEY'RE ON PAGE 25